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THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.

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ONE PENNY.

THE WAR IN AMERICA.

THE news of the important victory gained by the Federalists over the Confederates at Kentucky reached us by telegram last week; but in order to illustrate our engraving more particularly, we give the principal details of the transaction.

The following official report of the battle at Somerset, Kentucky, has been published:—

“Louisville, Jan. 22.

“To Major-General McClellan, commanding United States’ Army. The following has just been received from General Thomas:—

“The rout of the enemy was complete. After succeeding in getting two pieces of artillery across the river, and upwards of 50 wagons, they were abandoned, with all the ammunition in the depot in Mill Spring. They then threw away their arms, and dispersed through the mountains by ways in the direction of Monticello; but are so completely demoralised that I do not believe they will make a stand short of Tennessee. The property captured on this side of the river is of great value, amounting to eight 6-pounders, and two Parrott guns, with caissons filled with ammunition, and 100 four-horse wagons, and upwards of 1,200 horses and mules; several boxes of arms which had never been opened, and from 500 to 1,000 muskets, mostly with flint locks, but in good order; subsistence stores enough to serve the entire command for three days; also a large amount of hospital stores. As soon as I receive the report of the brigade commanders I will furnish a detailed report of the battle. Our loss was 39 killed, and 127 wounded. Among the wounded were Colonel M’Cook, of the 9th Ohio, commanding a brigade, and his aide-de-camp, Lieutenant Birt, of the 18th United

States’ Infantry. The loss of the rebels was Zollicoffer and 114 others killed and buried; 116 wounded, and 45 prisoners (not wounded), five of whom are surgeons.

(Signed) “D. C. BUELL,

“Brigadier-General Commanding.”

The Cincinnati papers contain full accounts of the battle at Mill Spring. It was a fair open battle. The rebels fought well, and were overcome only by superior fighting on our side. According to rebel accounts, their force consisted of 10 infantry regiments, 2 batteries, and some cavalry—altogether about 10,000 men. They fought from ravines, and behind trees, bushes, and rocks. For nearly three hours the war of musketry was kept up. Shortly after eleven o’clock Colonel Hoskins succeeded in flanking the enemy on the extreme right, when the 9th Ohio and 2nd Minnesota charged bayonets, and with triumphant yells, broke the rebel ranks, and the rout began. They fled pell-mell to their camp, strewing the road with muskets, blankets, overcoats, knapsacks, and abandoned two guns and caissons. Zollicoffer was shot through the heart at the head of his staff by Colonel Fry, of the 4th Kentucky Regiment. It appears that he lost his way in the bushes, and suddenly emerged before Colonel Fry, who was accompanied by some of his staff officers. The two parties mistook each other for friends, and approached within a few yards, when, finding their mistake, both parties prepared for a hand-to-hand fight. One of Zollicoffer’s aides shot at Colonel Fry, but only brought the horse down. The colonel immediately drew his six-shooter, and brought Zollicoffer from his horse at the first fire. The rebel staff deserted their chief’s body, which was taken to Somerset the next day after the battle.



ROUT OF THE CONFEDERATES AT SOMERSET IN KENTUCKY.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE principal topics of the week although of an interesting character, afford little of importance for comment. The French Chamber of Deputies, as was anticipated, on Saturday passed the bill for the conversion of the four-and-a-half per cent. Rentes; 226 members voted for the bill, and only 19 against it. A curious illustration of the working of the system of universal suffrage amongst our Gallic neighbours was afforded by a debate in the Chamber of Deputies on Friday. The President of the Council of State maintained that it was the right and duty of the Government to direct and enlighten the electors in the choice of members, and the Chamber, with its usual devotedness, adopted the principle, and validated the election of the member whom the Emperor had deigned to select, the remonstrances and objections of the opposition candidate being set at naught.

The Italian Government appears desirous to maintain at least an outward show of respect to the Papal See, and has denied in the Official Gazette the rumours that it encouraged manifestations against the temporal power at Rome.

The funds on Saturday were quiet, without any great change, Consols leaving off 92½ to 93 for money, and 93 for the account. About £30,000 was withdrawn from the Bank, principally French Gold. There was a strong demand for discount, the rate for three months' paper standing 2½ to 3. Mr. Scott Russell was adjudicated a bankrupt, but it is said the decision will be disputed.

On Monday evening both Houses of Parliament sat for a short time. In the House of Lords the Earl of Carnarvon called attention to the circumstance that there were other British subjects, who had been arrested and imprisoned in the Federal States, who had undergone no trial, and could only obtain their liberty by taking an oath of allegiance to the Washington Government, and thus abjuring their nationality as subjects of the Queen.

Earl Russell replied that the correspondence upon the subject would be found amongst the papers which had already been laid upon the table of the house. It was alleged by the authorities of the United States, that the persons referred to had been engaged in treasonable conspiracies; and, as President Lincoln had exercised his legitimate right in suspending the writ of *habeas corpus*, he was not prepared to say that their detention was illegal, or called for any further complaint on the part of this country.

The Earl of Derby invited the noble Foreign Secretary to point out any law or precedent which authorised one Government to enforce an oath of allegiance from the subjects of another.—Earl Russell observed that he was not acquainted with the facts of the several cases.

The Earl of Malmesbury then inquired what was the exact state and nature of the blockade of the Southern ports of America, it being represented by Mr. Mason that 600 or 700 ships had broken it. If that were true, then it would be impossible for the whole world to suffer the continuance of such an ineffective measure.

Earl Russell deprecated discussion on the first-mentioned question until Parliament was in possession of more correct and reliable information. He might say, however, that the ports blockaded were but few, and that the difficulties of maintaining the blockade of the whole coast were not so great as had been imagined. He believed that the majority of the vessels which had run the blockade were small craft.

In reply to a question by the Earl of Derby, Earl Granville stated that as soon as the fund which was being collected for a memorial of the Prince Consort had reached a certain amount, it was the intention of the Lord Mayor and the committee to ascertain her Majesty's views as to the mode of appropriation that would be most agreeable to her feelings.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Cobden gave notice that, on an early day, he should call the attention of the house to the subject of international maritime law as it affects the rights of *habeas corpus*.—Sir G. Grey stated that the Government did not contemplate introducing any measure.

Lord R. Montagu gave notice for a future day that he should call attention to the appropriation and administration of the public money.—On the order of the day for considering the Budget Speech—Sir H. Willoughby complained of the oppressive and vexatious manner in which the assessed taxes, especially the income tax, were levied and collected. There was a general belief in the public mind that instructions had been issued from headquarters to screw up the income tax, and so make a ninepenny tax produce as much as a tenpenny one had done. In cases of unjust surcharge to the income tax, then, or vexatious treatment in its collection, he should like to know whether the taxpayer so aggrieved was to look for the purpose of obtaining redress.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer admitted that very great difficulty attended the collection of the income-tax. The assessors and collectors were not appointed by, nor were they under the control of the Executive, though the surveyors were. The Government were quite disposed to take into their own hands the assessment and collection of the direct taxes, and they had made an application to the various boards of commissioners on the subject; but although several commissioners desired that the duty should be transferred to the Government, so far as the first assessment and final collection were concerned, there was not such unanimity amongst them as to justify the proposal being submitted to the house.

The funds on Monday were dull, especially towards the close, the latest prices for Consols being 92½ to 93 for money, and 92½ to 93 for the account. Foreign stocks and shares, with only exceptional cases, exhibited weakness, the late animation having diminished. About £55,000 gold was withdrawn from the Bank.

In the House of Lords on Tuesday, Lord Truro gave notice for that day fortnight that he should call their lordships' attention to the state of the volunteer movement, and inquire whether the Government were disposed to grant further aid to that force, and if so, of what nature and to what extent.

In the House of Commons, Sir R. Peel stated, in reply to Mr. Dawson, that he intended, at an early day, to bring in a bill for effecting a proper registration of births and deaths in Ireland, and that the question of registration of marriages in that part of the kingdom was still under the consideration of the Government.

Mr. White moved a resolution to the effect that, as soon as the estimates were ready, one night in each week should be

given to their consideration; motions on going into committee of supply being on that day not permitted, except by express permission of the house.

Sir G. Grey admitted that, if it were agreed that one day in the week—say Thursday—should be appropriated to the discussion of the estimates, and that the Speaker should then leave the chair and the house go into committee without question, the estimates would undergo a more searching investigation, and the public business be more satisfactorily conducted, than at present. He suggested that it would be better to provide that whenever on Thursdays committee of supply stood as first order of the day the Speaker should leave the chair without any debate being allowed on that order, and that the house should then resolve itself into committee.

Mr. Disraeli said he was satisfied that the House would never agree to the crude proposal of Mr. White, that immediately the estimates had been laid upon the table they should proceed compulsorily to vote supplies once a week. The suggestion of the Home Secretary was more practicable.

Lord Palmerston hoped that Mr. White would not press his motion to a division, but leave the question open for future consideration and the maturing of some arrangement that would be more likely to enlist the general concurrence of the House, which was essential to the adoption of any change in the present usage.—The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Lord Proby (Controller of the Household) brought up the answer of her Majesty to the address in reply to the Royal Speech on the opening of Parliament, and which was in these terms:—"I thank you sincerely for your loyal and dutiful Address, and especially for the affectionate condolence and the concern expressed for me in my deep affliction."

Mr. Ayrton obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the law relating to the recovery of damages by workmen and servants, and of compensation by the families of workmen and servants killed by accident.

Mr. Milnes obtained leave to bring in a bill to legalise marriage with a deceased wife's sister in all parts of the United Kingdom.

Sir C. Douglas, in the absence of Sir John Trelawney, moved for leave to bring in a bill to abolish church rates.

Mr. S. Estcourt intimated that when the bill came on for second reading, he should not, as on a previous occasion, meet it with a simple negative, but draw attention to the crude and one-sided character of the measure, and endeavour to obtain from the house the recognition of some distinct principle upon which legislation should be founded.

Mr. Bristow obtained leave to introduce a bill to amend the Metropolitan Local Management Act.

Mr. Collier a bill to prohibit the payment of the expenses of conveying voters to the poll in boroughs.

Mr. Newdegate a bill to establish a charge in lieu of church rates, for the commutation thereof, and to afford facilities for the provision of other funds applicable to the purposes of church rates.

The funds closed quietly, but with firmness, consols for money leaving off 92½ to 93, and for the account 93 rather buyers; railway shares were good, on the prospects of dividends. Some surprise was felt by the falling through of the temporary French loan, and persons who had made preparations complain of the sudden abandonment of the transaction. About £10,000 was withdrawn from the Bank. The rate of discount was supported at 2½ per cent., but the pressure was not so excessive.

Both Houses of Convocation met at the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster Abbey. The upper house passed a vote of condolence on the death of Prince Albert, to which the lower house was invited to agree. It also appointed a committee to inquire into the state of the law with reference to the resumption of synodal action. The revised minutes on education were brought before the lower house by Archdeacon Denison, who strongly condemned them. After some discussion a committee was appointed on the subject.

The nomination of candidates for Lincoln took place on Monday. Mr. Hinde Palmer, Liberal, and Mr. Bramley-Moore, Conservative, were severally proposed and seconded. Mr. Palmer was declared to have the show of hands; but a poll was demanded, which takes place this day.

The Great Exhibition is attracting all the lesser luminaries of the kingdom to the metropolis this year. Among other institutions it has been determined by the directors of the Social Science Association to hold their annual conference this year in London, in the hope that the jurists, statistes, and philanthropists of the Continent will take advantage of the opportunity and attend their discussions. A preliminary meeting of the friends of the association, for this purpose, was held in the Mansion House, when resolutions approving of the object and appointing a committee for the reception of strangers were agreed to. The principal speakers were Sir John Pakington, the Recorder, and Sir Francis Goldsmid. It is understood that Burlington House has been promised for the meetings of the different sections.

BOARD OF TRADE, WHITEHALL, FEB. 11.—The Right Hon. the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade give notice, that the *Moniteur*, of the 8th inst., contains a French imperial decree, according to sea-going vessels built in Canada the privilege of admission to registry in France on the following conditions:—Sea-going vessels of wood 25f., of iron 70f., per French ton. Hulls of vessels of wood 15f., of iron 50f., per French ton. Machinery fixed in either of the above, 25f. per 100 kilogrammes.—*Gazette*.

THE PROPOSED ROAD ACROSS HYDE-PARK.—Since the last meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works a considerable number of the members of that board have viewed the line of the road proposed by the Right Hon. W. Cowper First Commissioner of Works, to be made across Hyde-park, from Bayswater to Kensington; and at a full meeting of the Streets and Improvements Committee of the whole board, held on Monday, the subject was discussed at great length; and it was discussed at great length; and it was resolved almost unanimously, not to make the road unless special funds were provided by Government for that purpose; the grounds for such a determination being that the proposed road would be made through crown property, and for the convenience of a small but wealthy section of the metropolis, while it was far from being the most pressing improvement in the metropolis. Mr. Train, of street railway notoriety, has offered the board in the event of the road being made, to pay the sum of £2,000 or a toll of a farthing per person for the first year, if allowed to lay down his street railway along the road.

Foreign News.

FRANCE.

Paris, Feb. 8.—The whole Bill for the Conversion of the Rentes was passed this evening, in the Chamber of Deputies, by 226 against 19 votes.

The advices from France and Belgium on Tuesday bring improved quotations of Exchange. The 20-franc pieces lately withdrawn from the Bank of England have mostly gone to the latter country, but these remittances will be stopped by the present movement in the exchange, which shows a loss upon them. The tendency of the exchanges generally appear to be in favour of this country. Only a portion of the £14,500 by the Saxonia from New York, consisting of American eagles, has been taken for the continent. The £51,000 by the Arabia has yet to come to hand.

ITALY.

Turin, Feb. 8.—The *Official Gazette*, replying to the rumours that the Government encouraged manifestations against the temporal power at Rome, that it had decreed the recall of Mazzini, and, by means of secret encouragements, was preparing a clandestine expedition, declares that the Government will not depart from the laws of an upright and loyal policy, and will endeavour to seize every opportunity which may present itself of assuring, in an ample and fruitful manner, the destinies of the nation.

To-day, in the Chamber of Deputies, Signor Gallenga requested an explanation respecting the assassination of an English traveller at Leghorn.

Baron Ricasoli, in reply, expressed his regret that such a deplorable act had been committed, but stated that, from the official investigation which had been made in the matter, it appeared that all the authorities had done their duty.

FEB. 9.—The *Italia* of to-day publishes a circular addressed by the Minister of the Interior to the prefects, exhorting them to prevent, by the exercise of their legitimate influence with the citizens, the recurrence of popular manifestations similar to those which have recently taken place in Florence, Parma, and other places.

GENOA, Feb. 9.—A great popular manifestation has taken place here to-day. Shouts were raised of "Rome as the capital of Italy!" "Long live King Victor Emmanuel!"

MILAN, Feb. 9.—Preparations having been made for popular manifestations in this city similar to those which have recently taken place in several Italian towns, the municipality have published a proclamation stating that demonstrations in the public streets were useless, and advising the Milanese to exercise their constitutional rights by signing the following protest: "Although respecting the Sovereign Pontiff at the head of the Church, we look upon Rome as the Capital of Italy, with one King Victor Emmanuel." This protest already bears innumerable signatures.

RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 7.—The *Journal de St. Petersburg* of to-day, in an article on the budget, shows that the state of the Russian finances, if compared with those of other countries, may be considered favourable, and adds: "An increase in the ordinary income, without an augmentation of the taxes, may be soon expected."

FEB. 8.—The *Northern Post* of to-day states:—"5,000,000 silver roubles have been destined to cover advances made to the owners of a less number than 20 serfs."

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* of to-day announces that 6,000 marines have received their furlough.

SPAIN.

MADRID, Feb. 8.—Senor Martinez de la Rosa is dead. M. Mon has been summoned by telegraph from Paris, and will be appointed President of the Chamber of Deputies.

The Government is examining the question of effecting the redemption of the public debt.

The Fontenay, with troops for Mexico, has put in at Cadiz to repair damages.

SWITZERLAND.

BERNE, Feb. 8.—The sittings of the Federal Assembly were closed to-day, after that body had voted the necessary credits for the construction of military roads in the Alps.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, Feb. 8.—A new financial project is on the tapis; it has been proposed to raise 100 millions, by granting a lease of the crown lands for forty years. That sum would enable the bank to meet its engagements.

A change of opinion appears to be taking place among the journals of Vienna. "We cannot shut our eyes," says the *Press* of Vienna, "to the difficulties of our position in Italy, and it is urgent that we should be rid of the matter as soon as possible. We must give Italy guarantees to prove that we have broken once for all with the policy of restoration in Italy."

PRUSSIA.

The chamber of deputies have introduced this session something of a novelty into parliamentary arrangements. There will be no address in reply to the speech from the throne, and thus a long, impassioned, and, as the deputies think, unprofitable debate will be avoided. The chamber consider it most suitable and advantageous to discuss the several topics of foreign and domestic policy as they present themselves in the regular progress of business. Opinions are greatly divided in Prussia upon the advantage of this course of procedure.

PERU AND MEXICO.

A Lima Journal *El Sol*, contains the following:—"The Peruvian government has appointed a minister plenipotentiary to the cabinet of Mexico. Dr. Carpancho, invested with these functions, is directed to offer Mexico succour of money, arms, and soldiers, to repel the attempted conquest on the part of Spain, supported by France and England." The Peruvian press writes in the strongest terms against the allies.

COCHIN CHINA.

The *Presse* publishes dispatches from Cochin China, announcing that Admiral Bonnard had taken the positions nearest to Bienhoa. This place, after an energetic resistance causing the loss of a certain number of men, asked to capitulate. Admiral Bonnard very narrowly escaped being killed. It was proposed to march on Hué, the capital, as the taking of that place would pacify the country.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

ITALY.

Rome, Feb. 11.—Popular demonstrations have taken place in several other Italian towns, the people everywhere shouting, "Long live the capital of Italy!"

In Naples, where a similar demonstration took place, many persons were made prisoners.

Bandits infesting the neighbourhood of Ricigliano have been made prisoners.

CIRCULAR OF BARON RICASOLI ON HIS POLICY.

Rome, Feb. 11.—The *Correspondence Italienne* of to-day publishes a circular of Baron Ricasoli, addressed to the provinces, in which he observes:—

"The Government still pursues the execution of the policy which, and has formally stated by what means and under what conditions it intends to proceed to Rome. The Ministry alone will decide upon these means and the opportunity of employing them. The dignity and the interests of the nation alike will not permit of its allowing itself to be preceded or hindered in any way."

"The Government has reason to be satisfied with the success it has obtained. The free church and the free state will inaugurate a new order of things, of which the Italians may become the originators. In carrying out the programme of effecting a reconciliation between Italy and the Pope, the government desires that its labours may not be impeded by inconsiderate acts of enthusiasm and clamorous manifestations."

"The prefects should enlighten public opinion, and make use of their authority in order to prevent the popular manifestations taking place."

TURKEY.

Constantinople, Feb. 10.—A Servian agent having given to the Porte explanations in reference to the protest which it had presented to the Powers, on the resolutions recently passed by the Assembly of Servia, the Porte has declared itself to be fully satisfied with regard to the further intentions of Servia.

TURKISH FINANCE.

Constantinople, Feb. 11.—Although the Sultan, upon his accession to the throne, considerably reduced his civil list, and has since devoted to the service of the State large sums from the savings of his private purse, his Imperial Majesty yesterday, of his own accord, 20,000,000 piastres to discharge the arrears due to officials and to the army.

FRANCE.

Paris, Feb. 11, Evening.—The Senate, at to-day's sitting, unanimously declared that it did not oppose the promulgation of the law for the conversion of the Four-and-a-half per Cent. Rentes.

THE PARIS BOURSE.

Paris, Feb. 11.—The Bourse remains dull. Rentes closed at 72.25, or 5c. lower than yesterday.

SPAIN.

Madrid, Feb. 10.—It is asserted that the decree for the settlement of the debt of 1823 has received the Royal sanction.

The Minister of Finance is actively engaged in the settlement of the redeemable debt.

Mr. Mon has accepted the Presidency of the Congress.

Madrid, Feb. 11.—It is said that France consents to fix the amount of the Spanish debt of 1823 at the sum of twenty million francs.

By telegram we learn that the French Senate have unanimously expressed their approval of the law for the conversion of the Four-and-a-half per Cent. Rentes.

The Italian people, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the Government, persist in their demonstrations against Rome. Fresh demonstrations are reported in several towns, and at Naples the priests took part with the people. The popular cry is "Long live the capital of Italy!"

Austria, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Saxony, and all the rest of the German States, except Prussia, Baden, and Coburg-Gotha, have concluded a new German confederacy, and the various States have each notified the fact to the Prussian Government.

A telegram from Madrid states that France consents to fix the amount of the Spanish debt of 1823 at the sum of 20,000,000 francs. The decree for the settlement of the debt is said to have received the Queen's signature. The Minister of Finance is also actively engaged in the settlement of the redeemable debt.

The Emperor of Austria has created fifteen new members of the Upper House, one of whom is Professor Miklosich, not of noble origin. This measure is considered as a pledge of the continuance of the February diploma of 1861.

Matters are quiet in China and Japan. Mr. Moss has been awarded 42,000 damages by the Japanese Government. Mr. Harris has also obtained \$10,000 for the mother of the murdered Hensken. Trade is very prosperous on the Yang-tze river. Ningpo has been taken by the rebels, but the lives and property of foreigners were respected.

The Madrid journals publish several articles relative to the establishment of a monarchical Government in Mexico, and the *Epoca* seems to think that a Spanish prince would enact the sovereign there just as well as an Austrian or any other foreigner.

The cabinet of Turin has been moved at the tumultuous scenes which have taken place at Florence. A circular addressed to the prefects calls on them to prevent such manifestations. The *Nazione* designates the article of the *Contemporaneo* which exasperated the Florentine population as "an imprudent provocation, and a violent insult to our magnanimous King and brave army."

The *Nationalities* of Turin gives the following as the number of National Guards in the 25 northern provinces of Italy, comprising 7,331,002 inhabitants:—Sedentary National Guards in ordinary service, 402,000; ditto in reserve, 325,868; mobile National Guards in active service, 180,941; ditto in reserve, 123,175.

In its sitting of the 5th the cabinet of Vienna communicated its financial projects to the Chambers. No new taxes will be created during the present year, but those already existing will be increased. That augmentation, according to the calculation of the Minister of Finance, will add about 22 millions to the revenue. The Government also proposes to realise the fractions of previous loans not yet taken up.

AMERICA.

The telegraphic summary of the news brought by the *Hibernian*, arrived on Sunday at Londonderry from America, contains nothing of any great interest. The army of the Potomac was still in tents. General Burnside's expedition was in Pamlico Sound. It intended to cut the railroad communication between Carolina and Virginia, in order to restrict the movements of the Confederates. The Confederates had ordered out the North Carolina militia to be prepared to meet the expedition. The Federals are said to have occupied Key West, in Florida. All we hear of the War in Missouri is a correspondence between the Confederate General Price and the Federal General Halleck, in which the latter states, in reply to the former, that Confederate prisoners captured in the garb of soldiers will be treated as prisoners of war, but that spies and incendiaries will be punished. General Arthur had laid before the Legislature of the state of New York his plan for the defence of New York harbour, for the safety of which fears had arisen during the late chance of a rupture with England. The steamer *Mauritius*, with British troops on board, put into St. John's, Newfoundland, for coal, on the 24th ult., having experienced dreadful weather, and been obliged to throw many horses overboard.

By the arrival of the *Arabia* at Queenstown we have four days' later intelligence from New York; that is, up to the morning of the 30th January. General Burnside's expedition, which consisted of some 125 vessels, on arriving at Cape Hatteras, experienced very tempestuous weather; and owing to some misapprehension as to the depth of water, the steamer *City of New York*, with a cargo of the value of \$200,000, struck on the outer bar and was totally lost. Several other vessels also ran on shore. Of the remainder nearly all had crossed the bar into Pamlico Sound. Letters from Port Royal indicate an early attack on Savannah. Two divisions of the Federal army were moving on Springfield. That the defeat of the Confederates in Kentucky was a serious one is verified by the announcement that General Beauregard has left Manassas to take the command at Columbus, Kentucky. More vessels are reported to have been sunk in the Charleston Channels—a proceeding which the New York journals justify. It was rumoured in Washington that the Secretary of War had instructed General Lane to arm the slaves and employ them against the enemy. The Congress was chiefly employed in discussing the ways and means for carrying on the war.

SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION.

A death attended with extraordinary circumstances has just taken place at Cosena (Romagna), in the person of a resident of that town, the Countess Cornelia, who had reached the age of sixty-two without any kind of infirmity. One night her attendants observed that contrary to her usual habits, she appeared rather heavy and sleepy immediately after supper but she nevertheless sat up three hours talking to her maid, and then said her prayers and went to bed. The next morning her maid, alarmed at not being summoned by the countess long after the ordinary hour, entered her chamber and called to her. Hearing no answer, and fearing something had happened, she opened the shutters, and was horror-struck at seeing the body of her mistress in the state we are about to describe:—Not more than a yard from the bed was a heap of ashes in which lay two legs—entire from the foot to the knee—and two arms. The head was between the legs. All the rest of the body had been converted into ashes, which when touched, left a greasy and fetid humidity on the fingers. On the floor was a small lamp without oil, and on the table stood two candlesticks, the candles of which had lost all their tallow, but the wicks remained unburnt; the bed was uninjured; the clothes lying as they usually do when a person has risen; all the hangings of the bed were covered with a grayish soot, which had even penetrated into some drawers and soiled the linen they contained. This soot had also found its way into an adjoining kitchen and covered the walls, furniture, and utensils. The bread in the safe was also covered with it, and when offered to several dogs they would not touch it. In the chamber over the countess's room, the lower part of the windows was soiled with a fatty yellow fluid. The whole atmosphere around was impregnated with an indescribable and most disagreeable smell, and the floor of the chamber was coated with a thick, clammy, and extremely adhesive moisture. The countess had evidently been consumed by an internal fire. Dr. Bianchi, a physician of the town, who has published a pamphlet on the case, thinks that the fire began in the lungs and was developed during sleep; that the countess being awakened by the dreadful pain, had no doubt risen to get air, perhaps intending to open the window, but had only been able to leave her bed, when she sank under the fire that was devouring her. The Marquis Scipio Maffei, who has also written on the same subject, says that the countess was in the habit of rubbing her body with camphorated spirits of wine, which she used frequently, and he thinks that the frequent use of that liquid was one of the causes of her death. —*Galignani*.

NEW SCULPTURES FOR THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—We understand that a magnificent group of Europa and the Bull, of the size of life, found in the Ancient Roman amphitheatre at Gortigna, in Crete, has lately been exhumed, and has been brought to England by her Majesty's ship *Sceurg*; and that, within the last few days, it has been deposited within the British Museum side by side with the Carian and Cyrenaic sculptures.

FINANCIAL REFORM.—On Monday evening a meeting was held at the Horns Tavern, Kennington Park, Mr. F. Doulton in the chair, for the purpose of promoting the cause of financial reform, and to obtain a reduction in the tea and sugar duties. The chairman opened the proceedings by some appropriate remarks, and was followed by Mr. J. Noble. The following resolution, proposed by Mr. James W. Smith and seconded by Mr. James Beal, was unanimously adopted:—"The indirect mode of raising the revenue of the country by excise and customs, and which falls with the greatest severity upon the poorest, is unjust and demoralising, and ought to be replaced by a system of direct taxation, by which each individual might contribute in proportion to his means, and should know the exact amount of his contributions." The proceedings then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

A few days ago the Hon. C. Wrotesley sustained a fracture of one of the bones of the right shoulder while out hunting with the Albrighton hounds.

The Hon. Mrs. Dyer Sombra has contributed the sum of £1500 towards the erection of a new town hall and covered market at Stone, Staffordshire.

The mayor of Southampton, Mr. F. Perkins, has offered to give 200 guineas towards the raising of £5,000 in Southampton and the county of Hants for a local memorial.

A very influential meeting was held in Exeter last week for the purpose of erecting a museum in that city which is intended to serve the purpose of a memorial to the Prince Consort.

AFFECTING TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF A BOY.—The unfortunate lad Holland, who recently met his death at the hands of a boy named Maynard, at Beckenham, for which the latter is now incarcerated in Maidstone Gaol awaiting his trial, was buried on Saturday last. The deceased boy was a member of the Beckenham band. He had been brought up in the Beckenham school; and his general conduct had rendered him universally respected by all who knew him, and he was, in fact, considered one of the best boys in the parish. On the occasion of his funeral, which was attended by all the children of the neighbourhood, and many of their parents, the band preceded the coffin, playing the "Dead March in Saul," tradesmen closed their shops; and at the conclusion of the burial service, the Rev. Mr. Chalmers, the rector, addressed those present in the most touching manner, and produced the most visible emotion in many of the old and young.

A new county Hospital is about to be built in Winchester, the present building being in a dilapidated condition and in an inconvenient situation. The site chosen is an elevated position, more advantageous in every respect than the present one. Subscriptions to the extent of nearly £5000 having already been received.

EDUCATION AND THE CLERGY.—The Bishop Stortford *Observer* states that the Rev. G. Brooks, vicar of Clavering, has turned a girl out of the day school under his direction because her parents decline to forego the practice of taking her with them on Sunday to the Independent Chapel.

REPRESENTATION OF LEICESTER.—Since the announcement of the retirement of Mr. J. Biggs, the advance section of the Liberal party in Leicester have actively bestirred themselves in the selection of a candidate of their own views to supply the vacancy thus caused.

THE ATTEMPTED MURDER AT ROCHDALE.—Joseph Issott, who has for some days been in custody, charged with shooting his wife with intent to murder her, was on Saturday committed for trial by the Rochdale magistrates. The deposition of Mrs. Issott stated that the prisoner had frequently shown that he was jealous of her, that he had accused her of improper intimacy with a lodger, and threatened to take her life. She denied that she had been guilty of improper conduct.

MR. SMITH O'BRIEN AND HIS ESTATES.—DUBLIN, Saturday evening.—The Court of Chancery was occupied part of yesterday and to-day with the estates of Mr. Smith O'Brien. The Lord Chancellor dismissed the petition of the trustees, set aside the trust deeds of 1848, and confirmed the deed of 1861, by which the eldest son becomes possessed of the property, paying his father £2,000 a year during his life, as well as charges for the support of the younger children. Mr. Smith O'Brien was cheered on leaving the court by a crowd assembled in the hall.

THE MYSTERIOUS DEATHS OF TWO CHILDREN.—On Saturday last, the adjourned inquiry into the deaths of Hepzibah and Ellen Lovelace, daughters of an operative shoemaker, residing at Two Mile-hill, Kingswood, was resumed before Mr. W. Gaisford, at the Rose and Crown, Two Mile-hill. The two children were aged five and two years respectively, and they died within a few days of each other in the early part of last month. Mr. Henry Grace, surgeon, who attended the children, deposed to their being treated for sickness and diarrhoea. The butter of which they had partaken was evidently bad. He gave a certificate of Ellen having died of diarrhoea and fever. Hepzibah Lovelace, the mother of the deceased, stated that on Wednesday morning Hepzibah breakfasted on some of the fresh butter, after which, about ten o'clock, she was taken ill, and died in seventeen hours after. Ellen died in twenty hours after her first attack. Mr. W. Herapath, professor of chemistry, who examined the contents of the stomach, stated that he found no traces of metallic or vegetable poison in the stomach of the deceased. He ascribed the chief cause of injury to the butter, which if kept in a zinc trough might have dissolved some of the metal, and thus have affected the stomach. One witness said that if the coroner wished to know the history of the butter, he could produce evidence from the time it was made: and witnesses were then called, whose testimony showed that the milk had only been in tin and earthen vessels. Mr. Herapath said that it was now proved that it had not been in contact with zinc at all, and therefore it would be of no use to try it in that metal. The jury returned the following verdict:—"That the said children, Ellen and Hepzibah Lovelace, died from excessive purging and vomiting, but how that was occasioned there is no satisfactory evidence to show."

THE ALLEGED MURDER NEAR BRIDGWATER.—On Monday William Chard, jun., who had been remanded on a charge of shooting his servant, Parnella Howe, was again brought up before the county magistrates at Bridgwater. The verdict of "Accidental death," returned by the coroner's jury, has caused much excitement, and a large number of persons attended to hear the examination. The evidence was very similar to that given at the coroner's inquest; but there was a remarkable unwillingness on the part of some of the witnesses to give evidence. Joseph Gardner, who was called into the house at the time of the occurrence by the wife of the prisoner, proved seeing the deceased on the floor and the prisoner by her side, and he also swore that the accused said the gun went off accidentally. This witness took down the gun from its place, and put it in an outhouse; but he now swore he did it for fear any of the females in the house might entangle their caps in it. Ann Tucker and William Bowden, who entered the house after the deceased was found dead on the floor, persisted they knew nothing of anything the prisoner said, asserting that he only remarked he did not know the gun was loaded, and it was an accident. The chief constable, through Mr. Trevelyan asked for a remand, Mr. B. Lovibond objected. The Bench, however, remanded the prisoner for a week and ordered a new trial, and



OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.—THE LORD CHANCELLOR READING THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

On Thursday the 6th inst., the fourth Session of the sixth Parliament of Queen Victoria was opened by Royal Commission. Consequent upon the melancholy bereavement of our beloved Queen, this important ceremony was divested of its usual interest; the Royal Speech, instead of being delivered in person by her Majesty, was read by the Lord Chancellor, one of the commissioners, as shown in our engraving. Of the contents of the speech, our readers are already familiar.

Lord Dufferin, in moving the address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, dwelt in terms of the highest eulogy upon the public and private career of the late Prince Consort, after referring in congratulatory terms to the conduct of the Government in the affair of the Trent, and to the loyalty displayed by the Canadian provinces, reviewed the remaining topics in the Royal Speech, and concluded by expressing the sympathy felt by their lordships for the terrible bereavement which Her Majesty had undergone.

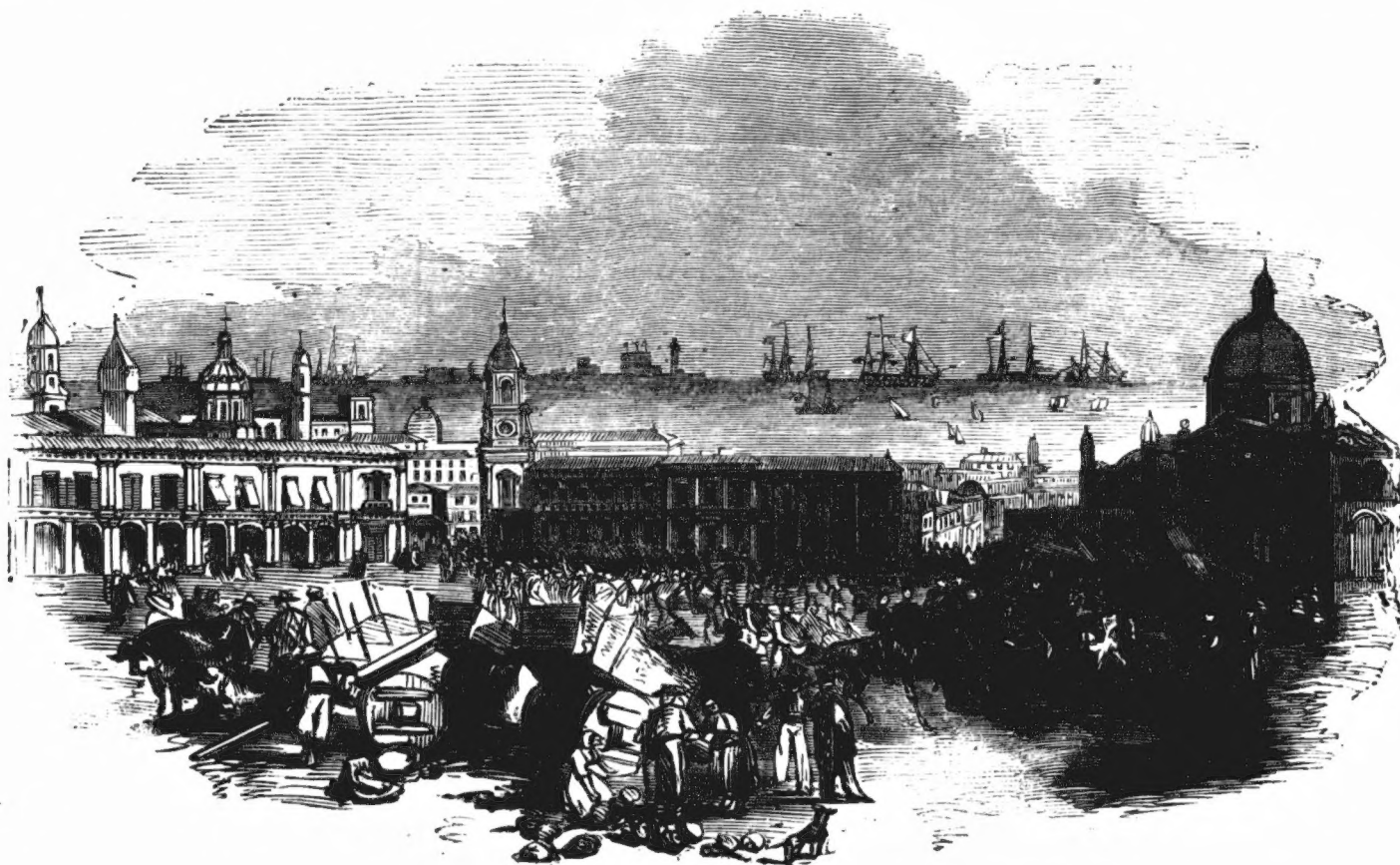
The Earl of Shelbourne seconded the address, and the Earl of Derby supported the address in the course of his speech referred to American affairs. In reference to the Southern States he observed that the time had not yet arrived when her

Majesty's Government could recognise a State which had not yet shown the power of vindicating and maintaining its own independence.

THE MEXICAN WAR.—VERA CRUZ.

The city of Vera Cruz, the capital of Mexico, is now assuming a position of great importance, inasmuch as the intervention of France, Spain, and England, in endeavouring to obtain redress for a series of injuries and aggressions, which for years has affected our mercantile transactions in various parts of the world, has made Vera Cruz the centre of warlike operations. Troops from all parts have been ordered there, and, in the annexed engraving, we give a view of the Spanish troops defiling through the principal square. In the foreground is shown the bullock wagons, peculiar in the country; while, in the background, is seen the tower of the fort of San Juan d'Alloa, with flags of England, France, and Spain, floating thereon. This fort, which was erected by the early Spanish conquerors of Mexico, in accordance with their usual practice of building a cathedral and a fort wherever they set their foot,

is situated on the island of San Juan, in the roadstead of Vera Cruz. Besides the fortress, the island of San Juan is surmounted by a lighthouse seventy feet above the level of the sea, and has a communication with the town of Vera Cruz by railway. San Juan was abandoned by the Mexican troops, along with the town of Vera Cruz itself, when the Spaniards landed, and is now in the joint occupation of the three Powers. Although still menaced by the Mexican troops, the last reports state that the most perfect quiet prevails at Vera Cruz, and a part of the inhabitants who, of their free will or by force, had followed the troops of General Uruga, when the town was evacuated, have returned. All the Spanish soldiers have landed, but a considerable part of the military stores still remains on board the transports, as General Gasset received a formal order from his Government not to make any movement until the arrival of General Prim and the commanders of the French and English forces. Later advices state that these Generals have arrived. We may here add, for the interest of capitalists and others dealing in Mexican bonds, that the debt of that country is now £10,241,650, and the arrear of interest, £2,457,996, making a total of £12,699,646; and that the armed interest is £307,247, which is now eight years in arrear.



VERA CRUZ, CAPITAL OF MEXICO.—SPANISH TROOPS DEFILING THROUGH THE GRAND SQUARE.

CUMNER CHURCH, BERKSHIRE.

THIS interesting church possesses great claims to our attention, not only for its antiquity, but for the many historical recollections with which it is associated. Cumner church is about three miles south of Witham, and is built on the brow of a hill commanding extensive views over the counties of Oxford and Gloucester. The church is a strongly-built edifice, and apparently ancient, as the west door is finished in the Saxon style. The chancel is divided from the body of church by a screen, presented some sixty or seventy years since by the then Earl of Abingdon, whose family are owners of the manor. The village contains about 400 inhabitants, who are mostly employed in husbandry. The parishioners, who pay tithes, have a custom of repairing to the vicarage immediately after prayers on Christmas afternoon, to be entertained with bread and cheese and ale. They claim on this occasion two bushels of wheat made into bread, half a hundred-weight of cheese, and four bushels of malt brewed into ale and small-beer. The fragments are next morning distributed to the poor.



CUMNER CHURCH, BERKSHIRE.

The remains of several stone crosses may be seen in several parts of the parish. These are supposed to have been erected by the Abbots of Abingdon, who formerly had a seat or place of retirement here, called Cumner Place. In this mansion—a large monastic building, with a quadrangular court in the centre—the wife of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, and favourite of Queen Elizabeth, was murdered by her husband's orders. The life of the unfortunate lady was first attempted by poison, but that failing, she was flung down stairs and killed by the fall. Being obscurely buried at Cumner, the privacy of her funeral occasioned censure, when the Earl directed the body to be removed to St. Mary's Church, Oxford, where it was reinterred in a pompous and solemn manner. The principal actor in this disgraceful tragedy was Sir Richard Varney. He was assisted by a villain, who, being afterwards apprehended for a different crime acknowledged the above murder and was privately destroyed. Varney himself is reported to have died about the same time in a deplorable manner.



ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

RAT-TAT, Rat-tat, Rat-tat. Through every street and square on the morning of the 14th February the sharp quick rat-tat of the postman echoes far and wide. What more important personage to be found on the morn of St. Valentine's Day than the postman? With his heavy bag and no end of letters in hand, he is more anxiously looked for than hot rolls for breakfast. Cookee, Mary, Jane, and even James are up betimes to get through their various duties, in order to loiter adjacent to the letter-box, ready to pounce upon the interesting missiles as they are thrust through the "patent" crevice of the door. Up the staircases, stealthily and nervously looking over the bannister, bright eyes peep downward the moment the well-known rat-tat startles them from their abstracted attention to other morning duties. A glow of crimson

suddenly suffuses many a pretty face, while hearts are beating with far more rapidity than the postman's rat-tat, sharp as that is. But a gruff stentorian voice is suddenly heard asking in no measured terms why the deuce they don't bring up his letters. Do they wish to keep him from the city all day? There is a hurry-scurrying, a lifting up of the door-mat, a depositing of something in a mysterious manner underneath, and with a flushed face and palpitating heart, Jane hurries in with her master's morning letter. Of course there are no valentines among them; but no sooner is the head of the house busily engaged over these, and Jane emerged from his presence, than the anxious hearts above again come eagerly forward to inquire what letters there are for them. Soon their suspense is alleviated, and in a few moments graceful forms are poring over the tinsel and

gold thread-work of those beautiful arrivals in the shape of valentines. Hearts intertwined with mystic knots, while others have thrust through them arrows of a very doubtful length, as though wholesale slaughter had been somewhere committed, but where and in what quarter the fair recipients of these precious missives are left to conjecture. Had Cupid himself flown through the window dressed in the most approved style of modern postman, with Zouave unmentionables and patent knickerbockers, he could scarce have created much more lively sensations in those young hearts even in delivering those tender effusions in *propria persona*. Probably, however, they could have rewarded him with a kiss, and in conjecturing such a natural result, we have depicted the sly little urchin in the act of receiving his reward.

THE COURT.

OSBORNE, FEB. 8.—Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Dudley de Ros has arrived at Osborne in attendance on Her Majesty.

FEB. 9.—Their Royal Highnesses Princess Helena and Prince Arthur and her Serene Highness Princess Hohenzollern attended Divine service this morning at Whippingham Church, where the Rev. G. Prothero officiated.

The Prince of Wales, traveling under the name of the Baron Renfrew, says a letter from Calais, dated Feb. 7th, arrived here this morning in the Admiralty yacht Vivid. His Royal Highness, who is on his way to Egypt, via Germany, afterwards left for Cologne.

The Prince of Wales arrived at Cologne on Friday, by the afternoon train of the Rhinish Railway. His Royal Highness and suite dined in the reserved saloon of the station, and soon afterwards proceeded on his journey to Berlin.

M. Lambert, who has come to Europe on a mission from King Radama II., of Madagascar, arrived yesterday in Paris.

ARMY, NAVY, AND VOLUNTEERS.

The *Sidon*, 22, paddle-wheel steam-frigate, Captain R. B. Crawford, arrived and anchored at Spithead on Saturday morning from the Cape of Good Hope station. She brought a number of naval invalids, who were removed to the Victory, flag-ship, in the Sprightly, steam-tender. The *Sidon*, after being inspected, and her powder, &c., discharged, will come into the harbour to be paid off.

A series of interesting experiments has been carried out during the present week at the Government practice range, Shoeburyness, in the presence of the Ordnance Select Committee, for the purpose of testing the extraordinary 300-pounder gun recently manufactured at the factory of Sir William Armstrong, Elswick, and forwarded to Woolwich Arsenal. The gun is a muzzle-loader, weighing 12 tons 8 cwt., and has been provided with a carriage platform, manufactured at the Royal Arsenal.

The *Ajax*, screw steam-vessel, taken up by the Admiralty for the service of the War Department, having adjusted compasses at Greenwich, has left with a full cargo of war stores for the West Indies; and two other vessels are shipping, similar cargoes at the Royal Arsenal for the same destination.

The *Seacrow*, steam-vessel, Captain the Hon. W. Ward, was paid off at Chatham on Saturday, and the crew granted the usual leave of absence.

The death of Major-General Sir Thomas Franks will occasion the following promotions in the army:—Colonel G. W. Key, late of the 15th Hussars, Brigadier-General of Cavalry at Dublin, to be major-general; Lieutenant-Colonel H. Hamilton, C.B., 78th Highlanders, to be colonel; Major G. Neeld Boldero, 21st Fusiliers, to be lieutenant-colonel; and Captain McNair, Staff Officer of Pensioners, to be major in the army.

The shooting mania appears to have been conveyed across the Atlantic in some of the regiments sent out to North America. Two men of the 2nd Battalion of the 16th Regiment have been tried and found guilty at Halifax of threats to shoot their superiors; and one of the 63rd was also to be tried at the same station.

Another good-service pension will be placed at the disposal of the General Commanding-in-Chief by the death of Major-General Sir Thomas Harte Franks, K.C.B.

Lieutenant Arbuthnot, 11th Hussars, is appointed aide-de-camp to Brigadier-General Haines, commanding the 3rd Infantry Brigade at Aldershot.

The Rev. R. M. Inskip and the Rev. R. M. Knapp, naval instructors of the cadet training-ship *Britannia*, have recently received a very substantial addition to their pay in the shape of £100 per annum.

The Lords of the Admiralty have, in recognition of the long and meritorious services rendered by the Rev. Thomas J. Main, the professor, and Mr. Henry W. Jeans, mathematical master, at the Royal Naval College, Portsmouth, added £100 per annum to each of their salaries.

FIRST MIDDLESEX ARTILLERY.—On Tuesday the members of this corps attended Divine service at the new church of All Saints, Baywater.

NINETEENTH MIDDLESEX.—On Saturday evening there was a very good muster of the members of this corps at headquarters, whence they marched to the University College, Upper Gower-street. The drill ground was lit up with lamps for the occasion.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES TO THE 26TH MIDDLESEX.—Yesterday afternoon the ceremony of presenting the prizes to the members of the 26th Middlesex (her Majesty's Customs) Rifle Volunteers, won during the year 1861, took place in the Long Room of the Custom House, Thames-street.

THIRTY-SEVENTH MIDDLESEX.—Capt. Gardiner and Lieut. Day have presented money prizes to the 5th company. The money will be divided among the members who shall have made between the 1st instant and the 22nd of April twenty-four attendances. The corps now numbers nearly 600 members.

FIRST CITY OF LONDON ENGINEERS.—At a meeting of this corps, it was resolved to form an artisan company, to be composed of the trades authorised for the Royal Engineers. Members of the trades enumerated will not be required to pay an entrance fee, and will be provided with uniform, &c., on advantageous terms. At the same meeting it was decided to accept the services of a volunteer brass band, organised under Mr. Huishman, late band-master of the 8th Hussars.

THE LONDON IRISH.—On Saturday a numerous muster of the corps took place at Somerset House, for the purpose of marching out. It was announced that arrangements had been made for battalion drill in a new drill-shed at Burlington House, and that the parades on Saturday will be at five, instead of seven o'clock.

TWENTY-FIFTH KENT (BLACKHEATH) RIFLES.—On Saturday afternoon a new and commodious drill-shed was opened at Blackheath by Viscount Sydney, Lord-Lieutenant of Kent, erected for the use of the 25th Kent Volunteer Corps by Capt. Rueker, commander of the corps.

GOVERNMENT AID TO VOLUNTEERS.—On Friday last an influential meeting of volunteer officers was held at Merchants' Hall, Glasgow, to deliberate on the propriety of memorialising the Government on the necessity of aiding the volunteer force, and to consider any other means of maintaining its efficiency in the county. A memorial was agreed upon.

TO OUR READERS.

We are this week unavoidably compelled to omit the continuation of "THE SHADOW OF WEDGWOOD." It will be resumed in our next.

NOTICE TO PUBLISHERS.

Publishers will much oblige by forwarding to us the titles of forthcoming publications; and any books they may wish to have noticed should be sent early in the week, addressed "to the Editor of the 'Illustrated Weekly News,' 12 York-street, Covent Garden, London."

THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1862.

BEFORE the year closes, the nation will, with the blessing of Providence, be called upon to celebrate with rejoicing the arrival at man's estate of the heir to the British Crown; but the father who has contributed by his wise counsels and paternal care to make the son worthy of the trust which may one day be imposed upon him, will not be amongst us to see, in the spontaneous expression of a people's gratitude, the richest reward for the fulfilment of his sacred duty. Years must pass away, not before his memory is forgotten—for, though a stranger, without a political existence, his memory will last as long as that of our greatest kings—but before the existing generation will cease to be constantly and painfully reminded of the loss which they have sustained. The publication of the treaty relative to the marriage of the Princess Alice, has opened the wound afresh.

It is painful to be obliged to invite public attention to an event so auspicious as the marriage of one of the Royal Princesses with reflections of so mournful a character. It is impossible, however, to read the treaty executed in August last without an involuntary pang. The Prince Consort's name appears in that treaty; but amongst us also it is his name alone that is left. It is provided in the treaty that the marriage should be ratified at a convenient season; but how little did the framers of the treaty anticipate the occurrence of the event which postpones for a period the celebration of the ceremony.

When the Prime Minister, last summer, announced to Parliament her Majesty's consent to the proposed marriage of her daughter, and asked the House of Commons to make a suitable provision for her,—the grant then voted by that House—embodying a dowry of £30,000, and an annuity of £6,000, was assented to. It is gratifying to observe that, under the terms of the treaty, the Princess's fortune is so disposed as to ensure to her and her children the full benefit of it. The capital sum of £30,000 will be so invested as to secure a life interest in it to husband and wife, or to the survivor of them, with remainder to the issue of the marriage, and failing such issue, and in default of testamentary disposition by the Princess Alice, to her next of kin. It will thus revert to the royal family of England, in case the Princess should leave no children and fail to dispose of it by will. In case she should leave children and grandchildren, the issue of children deceased, it is provided that the children shall take in equal shares, irrespective of age or sex, and that the grandchildren shall, in the same manner, share equally the portions to which their parents, as children of the Princess, would, if living, have been held entitled. In legal phraseology, the distribution of the property is to be regulated *per stirps* and not *per capita*. With respect to the annuity of £6,000, it is to be settled on the Princess for her separate use, without power of anticipation or alienation, and will expire with her life. On the side of the bridegroom, his father, the Grand Duke of Hesse, agrees to allow him for his appanage 40,000 florins annually, which is equal to £4,000; and further, in case the Princess Alice should survive her husband, to grant her a jointure of £2,000 or £4,000, according as the Prince may die in the enjoyment of his present rank, or, by the death of his elder brother previously, in that of heir-apparent to the Grand Duchy of Hesse. For the rest, it is provided that should the Princess attain the rank of Grand Duchess of Hesse, she shall receive an allowance equal to that enjoyed by previous grand duchesses.

Regarded from a purely worldly point of view, this marriage settlement should be considered satisfactory by all. The fears so frequently expressed that the children of the present Sovereign would cost the country large sums of money for their establishment in life, will prove groundless. The example and the lessons of economy taught by her Majesty and her lamented Consort to their children will not be lost upon them. Let any one take the trouble of comparing the civil list of the present Sovereign with those of her predecessors since the era of the Revolution, and a startling difference will be manifest. William and Mary received £700,000 annually; George II., £800,000. At the close of the reign of George III. the civil list exceeded one million. William IV. had upwards of half a million allowed to him; and her present Majesty has but £385,000. But, setting aside the consideration of the vast diminution of the allowances granted to the present Sovereign, what a contrast do not her habits and her mode of expenditure exhibit when compared with those of her predecessors. Let the curious in such matters turn over the journals of the House of Commons, and see how frequently, in former times, the Ministers of the Crown asked for additional subsidies to build new palaces, or to pay the debts of extrava-

gant princes. In the present reign such demands have never been made. Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, out of their private means, and without having recourse to Parliament, have acquired two estates and built two palaces. That her Majesty has lived within her income is a matter to her of just pride. It is so less on account of the pecuniary saving thus effected to a heavily taxed people than on that of the example nobly taught to her children. That example we are confident will not be thrown away. Whenever the Princess Alice will leave our shores with the husband of her choice, she will take with her the kind wishes of every one in this kingdom; and, if there is any reliance to be placed in the adage that "good mothers produce good daughters," fortunate indeed must the Prince of Hesse be in the wife whom he has chosen.

When the United States determinedly "go to destruction or an idea," the interests and position of the British North American provinces must not be overlooked. These provinces have little in common with the United States, but yet primeval forests, great mineral treasure, and a numerous and plodding, money-making agricultural population. Recent events, it need hardly be remarked, have furnished the most gratifying proofs of their attachment to the Throne, and of the absence of that bitterness in politics which more than once gave rise to some misgiving. Years of unintermitted and great prosperity have given the penniless and discontented of former time a large and increasing stake in this colonial. The interests of all now point steadily in the same direction, and tend one way—namely, towards the continuance and perpetuity of the connection with the United Kingdom. For that connection they will fight and make every sacrifice befitting free men. Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward's Island, put together a mercantile marine surpassing in men and ships and tonnage that of some of the great maritime powers of Europe; while their inscription of seamen, fishermen, raftsmen, and others, would numerically exceed that of France at present. These seamen and seafaring men, it is said, might easily be made, and without any large outlay, the great reserve of the Royal navy, and thus supplemented, it is added, the Royal navy would, if need be, once more triumphantly command the seas against any coalition that could be formed. The offer is creditable to the colonists, and, although unnecessary, shows where a new and powerful ally may be always found.

The present position of the British North American provinces is anomalous, but, being occasioned by the war between the Northern and Southern States, the change is likely to be continuing. For once in the history of these provinces it has become more profitable to sell to the United States than to purchase, and at last there is reason to believe that the great watercourse of the St. Lawrence will in future be the ocean highway of Canada, and of the still more productive and populous Western States. Thus New York is fast losing its commercial hold in Canada and the West, while its once great Southern trade is gone beyond hope; and hereafter where the West and Upper Canada buy their imported merchandise it will be profitable to sell their grain and other produce, for, by a well-known business law, such purchases are always most profitably paid in kind. So long as the West and Canada supplied themselves with imported articles in New York rather than in Toronto or Montreal, or in the markets of France and Germany and this country, almost every bushel of wheat grown, and every hog and ox slaughtered, were required in payment; and the St. Lawrence, notwithstanding its cheaper means of transport, and the shortness of its road to Europe, was practically of no use whatever. A mere tithe of the commerce of Canada and the West was floated on its waters, while the lower British provinces were absolutely left without that stimulus which in the economy of nature it is intended they should have. Now all this is changed. While New York descends steadily to insolvency, British America improves in credit, and there is scarcely a single article of commerce that cannot now be purchased by the West on better terms in Canada than in New York.

To close our eyes to this altered and, on the whole, promising state of things, would be absurd, and the attention of business men and Parliament cannot be called to the circumstance a moment too soon. Granting that the less Parliament has to do with trade the better, still the fact is that as Parliament has interfered or interested itself largely in our trade with the United States, a trimming of our sails, if the expression may be used, is now consequently a mere matter of course. Our annual subsidies to the Cunard and other Atlantic steamers are based on the assumption that the cohesion of the Northern and Southern States would continue; that there would be no Morrill tariff, and New York remain the great emporium of the United States and our own possessions. But the assumption no longer holds. The claims of our own possessions have now to be considered, that our postal subsidies may go to promote trade in its new and better and more natural channel. Then there is the eventuality of the recognition of the South, and the consequent direct transport of Southern produce without the unnecessary and costly circuit of New York. Such a trade would be promoted by subsidised steamers to Charleston, Savannah, or New Orleans, but in no way by subsidised steamers to New York.

Home News.

The Speaker will give his first parliamentary dinner on Saturday, at Westminster Palace.

Her Majesty's Commissioners for the International Exhibition for 1862 held a meeting at their offices in the Strand yesterday.

The Himalaya, iron screw-troop-ship, Captain John Seacombe, left Portsmouth on Saturday morning, and proceeded to Plymouth to be docked.

THE PRINCE CONSORT MEMORIAL FUND.—The subscriptions in aid of the above fund amount to more than £36,000. Among the subscriptions received yesterday was £500 from the Society of Arts.

THE HARTLEY COLLIERY FUND.—The total amount received by the Lord Mayor up to Monday afternoon in aid of the fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of the sufferers by the late calamity at the Hartley Colliery exceeded £16,000, of which upwards of £700 was received during the day. Among the subscriptions sent through Messrs. Coutts and Co. was £10 collected among the English at Nice, by the Rev. Lord Thos. Hay and friends.

THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting of the National Rifle Association will be held at Willis's Rooms on Saturday, March 1, at half-past two o'clock—his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, President of the Association, in the chair.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.—During the week ending Feb. 8, 1862, the visitors have been as follows:—On Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, free days, open from ten a.m. to ten p.m., 11,173; on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, students' days (admission to the public, 6d), open from ten a.m. till four p.m., 1,319; total, 15,522. From the opening of the museum, 2,483,159.

CRYSTAL PALACE, ONE SHILLING DAY, MONDAY, FEB. 10.—Admissions on payment, 680; ditto by season tickets, 683; total visitors, 1,363.

DEBATE ON THE "REVISED CODE."—Lord Palmerston has agreed to receive to-day a deputation from the National, Borough, and Home and Colonial, and Wesleyan Educational Societies, who had requested an audience for the purpose of presenting a memorial praying the Government to withdraw altogether the Revised Code, and to make the Old Code the basis of modifications adapted to meet more fully the educational wants of the country.

DISTRIBUTION OF NAVAL PRIZE MONEY.—Notice is given in Tuesday's *Gazette* that preparations are now being made for the intended distribution of the bounty awarded for the destruction of pirates in the China Seas, on the 7th and 8th December, 1853, by her Majesty's ships *Fury*, *Firm*, and *Bustard*.

Abstracts of the census of Canada (1861) have just been issued. It appears that out of the total population of Canada, 2,566,755, the Roman Catholics number 1,200,865, being 47.91 per cent. In Lower Canada they form, of course, the large majority of the population. Of the total population of 1,110,664, they number 912,724, or 81.88 per cent.

FAILURE OF THE VICTORIA-STREET TRAMWAY.—The Board of Works of St. Margaret's and St. John's Westminster, have, in consequence of frequent complaints made by the public, and numerous accidents having been reported, unanimously resolved to serve Mr. Train with a notice to remove the Victoria-street Tramway, in pursuance of the terms of an agreement entered into, with power to be enforced in the event of the experiment not being attended with success. As the extreme time allowed in the said notice will expire at the middle of the month of March, according to the agreement referred to, Mr. Train, is compelled, under a penalty of £1,000 deposited by him in the hands of the treasurer of the board, to remove the rails and re-lay the road in its former condition, entirely at his own expense, within that period.

MR. W. F. WINDHAM.—At the conclusion of the extraordinary inquiry before Master Warren, Mr. Windham returned to the family seat, Felbrigg Hall, Norfolk, where he has since been staying, apparently well satisfied with the result of the severe ordeal to which he has been subjected. Contrary to general report, he has been rejoined by Mrs. Windham, who arrived on Saturday evening at Norwich, posting to Felbrigg the same evening. In the course of last week Mr. Windham gave an audit dinner to his tenantry, at which he presided, proposing various toasts, and making several speeches, one of which is said to have lasted twenty minutes, evincing a familiarity with the leading topics of the day, and producing a favourable impression on the company present.

The Hellenic, screw steamer, Captain Amlot, belonging to the Anglo-Indian Steam Shipping Company, laden with fruit and oil from the Mediterranean, put in at Plymouth short of coals during Monday night. She reported that on the 3rd inst., while passing out through the Straits of Gibraltar, she passed the steam ship *Pactolus*, belonging to Messrs. Lamberton and Holt, of Liverpool, lashed alongside a French line-of-battle ship, which was endeavouring to tow her into Gibraltar. The *Pactolus* had her stern completely carried away. The Hellenic coaled and left Plymouth for London on Tuesday.

By the death of Lieutenant-General Jeremiah Taylor, the following promotions will take place:—Major-General the Duke of Wellington, K.G., to have the rank of lieutenant-general; Major-General J. J. W. Angerstein to be lieutenant-general; Colonel E. Rowley Hill, Deputy Adjutant-General at Barbadoes, formerly of the 63d Regiment, to be major-general; Lieutenant-Colonel H. Bingham, 60th Rifles, to be colonel; Major J. T. Dallyell, 21st Fusiliers, to be lieutenant-colonel; and Captain W. J. Dorchill, Staff Officer of Pensioners at Clonmel, late of the 43rd Light Infantry, to be major in the army.

The Black Prince, 40, iron plated frigate, has been paid with three coats of the composition invented by Mr. Ilay. The artisans at work on this ship are completing her fittings with as much rapidity as possible. The hammock nettings have been fitted, and a large amount of the internal work completed. The present number of men, however, is totally inadequate to the vast amount of work yet to be done, and should no reinforcement of workmen be allotted to the Black Prince she will not be completed until July or August, much less by the end of the financial year.

A woman, aged 28 years, died at 224, Bethnal-green-road, from typhus, which was, in the opinion Mr. Rolph, the medical attendant, "aggravated by living in an apartment of a small six-roomed house in which 22 human beings are lodged."

MONEY MARKET.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE FRENCH LOAN.—Considerable surprise was occasioned on Tuesday morning by an intimation from Messrs. Barings to the subscribers to the effect that the proposed loan to France cannot be carried out, in consequence of the inability of the French contractors to supply the requisite securities. It is said that a feeling of extreme annoyance prevails in official circles in Paris, and that to the strong impression entertained with reference to the matter in a still more exalted quarter the present collapse of the projected negotiation is mainly due. The result shows that, as the government is prevented by high intervention from applying the requisite stock, no one else can do so. The common sense of the public on both sides of the Channel carries them straight to the only possible conclusion, which is, that the loan was a manoeuvre to "rig" the market for an interested object and has failed from the inconvenient publicity acquired by it. The failure of the proposed loan is fairly matter for congratulation, apart from the favourable effect which the event is calculated to have upon our money and stock markets.

Simultaneously with the news that the French loan negotiation has fallen through, the money market has become easier. Good bills were readily taken in Lombard-street, on Tuesday at 2½ per cent., and in some quarters there were exceptional transactions a fraction lower. An active demand was experienced however at the Bank of England.

In the Stock Exchange the supply of money was very large, and the rates for short loans on English Government securities did not exceed 1 to 1½ per cent.

Extraordinary buoyancy prevailed on Tuesday on the Vienna Bourse. The Austrian funds rose 1½ to 2 per cent., and the exchange on London fell from 138 to 136.

The French news has likewise caused an immediate rally of 3s. or 4s. in Exchequer Bills, which are quoted 11s. to 15s. prem. the March, and 14s. to 18s. prem. the June.

About £10,000 in gold was taken from the Bank on Tuesday for abroad.

On 'Change, this afternoon, the principal feature was a considerable fall in the rates for bills on Austria, owing to the revival of confidence reported from Vienna. The other exchanges were firm.

An auction of the Foreign Redeemable Debt of Spain is to take place at Madrid on the 27th inst. The sum assigned for the purpose is 5,171,072 reals.

The Liverpool cotton market to-day was firm, but the sales were limited to 5,000 bales.

The London and Blackwall Railway Company's dividend is announced at the rate of 2½ per cent. per annum.

A general meeting of the Great Ship Company is called for the 28th inst.

An extraordinary meeting of the Manchester and London Life Assurance Association is called for the 26th inst., at Manchester, for the purpose of confirming "an arrangement for the union and incorporation of the association with an old-established life assurance society."

The new Victoria Loan was rather better, closing at 103½ to 1.

The half-yearly interest is advertised on Panama Railroad Bonds of 1872.

The indigo sales commenced this day, consisting of 4,853 chests.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

DRURY-LANE.—So great has been the success attending the engagements of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean, and the production of "Louis the Eleventh" and "The Wife's Secret," no change has taken place this week in the performance. The pantomime is still a great attraction, and the houses have been crowded.

HAYMARKET.—"Our American Cousin" has still the run here, in which Mr. Sothorn as Lord Dundreary, has achieved so great a triumph. The pantomime of "Little Miss Muffet" and "Little Boy Blue" continues to draw excellent houses.

LYCEUM.—There is no abatement in the crowds that nightly besiege the Lyceum doors to get a glimpse of "the Peep o' Day Boys," nor is there any appearance of its attraction diminishing, or some time to come. "Little Red Riding Hood" closes the excellent entertainment.

PRINCESSES.—Mr. and Mrs. Florence concluded their engagement here on Saturday night last, with the "Irish Emigrant" and the "Yankee Housekeeper." During the week, "As you Like It," and the pantomime of "Whittington and his Cat" (in which Master Haslem, as the cat, goes through some extraordinary performances), has been the attraction.

OLYMPIC.—"Slowtop's Engagements," "The King of the Merrows," and the "Lottery Ticket," have still been the feature throughout the week.

ST. JAMES'S.—No alteration has taken place here. The new drama of "Self Made," and the pantomime of "Perseus and Andromeda," continue to draw excellent houses.

STRAND.—"Old Phil's Birthday," with Mr. Rogers as Old Phil, "Puss in a New Pair of Boots," and Mr. Ray in "John Smith," has continued so attractive that no alteration in the pieces has been found necessary.

SADLER'S WELLS.—The legitimate drama still holds the ascendancy here. "Macbeth" and the "Bridal" have been the alternating pieces, with the capital pantomime of "Cherry and Fair Star."

CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.—"The original, well-known, and only Christy's Minstrels," as they correctly designate themselves, commenced their fifth London season at the Polygraphic Hall, in King William-street, on Monday evening, and are as clever and amusing as ever—as attractive too, for the hall was completely filled in every part by an audience who seemed heartily to enjoy their entertainment. Their negro ditties, very characteristic and exceedingly droll, are never coarse, vulgar, or offensive in any way to good taste; while their serious melodies, often graceful and pretty, are sung with a simplicity of style and truth of expression not always to be found among performers of higher pretensions. Several of the solo singers have fine voices; and as they all play very cleverly on various instruments, they accompany their vocal pieces with great delicacy and taste.

SKETCHES OF THEATRES IN OLDEN TIMES.

No. 1.—THE DUKE'S THEATRE.

PASSING through dull and gloomy Portugal-street (leading from South-street, Lincoln's-inn, to Clare Market) few could now realise of an evening the gay revelry, the dance and smoke of torch and flambeaux, which once characterised this locality; for here, on the site of the Museum of the College of Surgeons, stood "The Duke's" Theatre, under patent granted by Charles II. It was opened by Sir William Davenant in 1662, and took its name, "The Duke's," from its great patron the Duke of York, and more particularly perhaps to distinguish it from "The King's," as Drury-lane Theatre was then called. In Charles II's reign, the mansions in Lincoln's-inn-fields were mostly tenanted by the nobility and court favourites, and, prior to the royal recognition of theatres, tennis courts were the principal places of amusement for the gay gallants. Hence Lincoln's-inn had its tennis court, and which was then altered and fitted up as a theatre, and named as above. Up to this period there were no regular scenery upon the stage, nor female actresses, but Davenant introduced both. From the opening piece being the operatic "Siege of Rhodes," this theatre was virtually the first opera house, and indeed it was also called "The Opera," as what was afterwards called the Opera House in Covent Garden was not built till 1717.

Perhaps "The Duke's" Theatre possesses more interesting reminiscences than any other of the old houses. Probably the introduction of females to sustain their legitimate character, in lieu of the masculine gender, had much to do in rendering this place not only famous, but also turning the public taste from cock-fighting, bear-bating, wrestling, boxing, &c., to the drama. The name of the first actress, then, is worth recording, viz., Elizabeth Davenport, who first appeared as *Roxana* in the opera above named. The first performance here of some of Shakspeare's plays also opened the way for the more general introduction of actresses, who became great favourites. "Romeo and Juliet" was first brought out here; for, says Pepys, in his Diary, March 1st, 1662, "saw performed 'Romeo and Juliet,' the first time it was ever acted." Betterton the rival of Burbage and Garrick was the chief actor then; and Mary Saunderson, who enacted the part of Juliet, afterwards became Mrs. Betterton. Other plays of Shakspeare's followed, as Pepys again records, "May 28, saw 'Hamlet' done, giving us fresh reason never to think enough of Betterton," also "November 5, to the Duke's House to see 'Muebeth,' a pretty good play, but admirably acted." The "Rivals," altered by Davenant from Beaumont and Fletcher's "Two Noble Kinsmen," brought out Mary Davis, or, as she was more familiarly termed, Moll Davis, for so charmingly did she sing "My lodging is on the cold ground," that she charmed the heart of Charles II., who raised her from a lodging nearly as cold to become his Royal mistress. Another favourite actress was Mrs. Long, famous for her personification of male characters. She afterwards became the mistress of the Duke of Richmond. It would appear that other houses soon introduced female actresses, as on another visit of Pepys to the Duke's theatre (April 3, 1665), he sat in the pit next to Nell Gwyn and Rebecca Marshall of "the King's" house. This was on the occasion of the performance of Lord Orrery's "Mustapha," when Charles II. and my Lady Castlemaine were also present. Shortly after this the Plague broke out, and the house was closed until after the Great Fire of London. Davenant died in 1668, much respected, and was followed to the grave by a numerous assemblage, including many carriages and hackneys. The famous Mrs. Barry was then brought out at the Duke's; and, in 1671, Betterton, Smith (a barrister of Gray's-Inn), and Harris, wore the identical coronation *suite* of King Charles, the Duke of York, and Lord Oxford, while performing in Lord Orrery's play of "Henry V." Soon after this the company removed to the Dorset Gardens Theatre, of which we shall speak anon; and the King's Company, burnt out of Drury-lane, performed here till 1674, when it again became a tennis-court. After a lapse of twenty years, it was again refitted as a theatre, and opened with Congreve's comedy of "Love for Love." This building however was soon taken down and rebuilt by Christopher Rich, being opened by John Rich, with the comedy of the "Recruiting Officer," in 1714. A new era in theatricals was now inaugurated, for here the first pantomime was introduced, Rich himself playing Harlequin. About this time also originated the King's guard at the theatre, through a fracas in which Quin was concerned with several of the court favourites. Quin had established himself as a great favourite here, and appeared in his best parts, and to this day his memory is cherished among the foremost in histrionic art. Another celebrated piece was also brought out here, viz: the "Beggars' Opera," in 1727-8, and played for sixty-two nights the first season. So successful was this, that Rich soon realized sufficient money to build the then Covent Garden Theatre, to which the company removed in 1732; and then the Duke's Theatre was successively let for Italian operas, oratorios, &c. It was here that in 1734, Maclin killed his brother actor Halam, by accident in a quarrel. A few years later and we find concerts, exhibitions, &c., in vogue at this theatre, then it gradually declined to a barnack, an auction-room, a china repository, and finally, in 1848, the premises were sold to the college of surgeons, and are now a part of their museum.

ST. PETER'S TOWER.—The statue of Jupiter Tonans, converted into St. Peter, had its toe put into constant requisition, as all the lower orders, and many of the higher, kissed it, and pressed it against their foreheads; all however, carefully wiping the toe first, to preserve their lips and foreheads from the spittle of the devout who had preceded them. A young urchin of a child was held up to kiss the toe, but he squalled, and kicked, and cried; and, notwithstanding the exertions and wrath of his mother, would not be persuaded to kiss the black statue's black toe. Two handsome girls, apparently the daughters of a substantial tradesman, were lugged about from shrine to shrine, by their pious father, kneeling and praying, and at last finishing the whole by kissing the holy foot. The father went doggedly on, but the girls followed, quizzing him and laughing to each other; and, when they knelt behind him, kept looking about at the passers-by, instead of saying their prayers. I was close by the statue, and the grimace which each made as the toe came near their lips, and the care they took to make-believe and not touch the toe, formed a good comment on the duty and its objects.—*Duke of Buckingham's Private Diary.*

MR. AND MRS. BOUCICAULT.
"THE LILY OF KILLARNEY," AND "THE
DUBLIN BOY."

THE wide-spread celebrity of the "Colleen Bawn" has rendered the names of Mr. and Mrs. Boucicault "familiar to our ears as household words;" and we have this week much pleasure in presenting portraits of those highly popular artistes. Whether in England, Ireland, or on the other side of the Atlantic, Mr. Boucicault's creations in the shape of "sensation" dramas have formed the principal topic in not only the theatrical world, but in every other circle of society. From the highest to the lowest all have been equally desirous to see the famed "Colleen Bawn" and its startling water-cove scene; nor is the interest, even now, scarcely in any way abated. Under different titles the "Colleen Bawn," or adaptations of it, has been produced at nearly every theatre in the old and new world, also in Australia, California, &c.; and now the culminating point has been realized by the production of the drama as a first-class opera at Covent Garden Theatre, under the title of the "Lily of Killarney," an illustration of which, by an eminent artist, we shall present in our next. It is unnecessary here to recur to the plot of piece. Suffice it to say that, in the hands of Jules Benedict, as the composer of the music, all the characters have been elevated to a dignity to which the original author of "The Collegians" (Gerald Griffin), from which the plot is taken, little imagined. Mr. Boucicault could not have made a better selection than in Mr. Benedict, one of the greatest and most refined of our modern composers. The materials and characters, rough as they were, presented no difficulties to this gentleman. Probably in some parts the Irish music must have inspired him, or he could not have produced so charming a piece of Irish melody as "I'm alone," or the true Hibernian character ballad of "Eily Mayourneen."

The serenade and duet "The Moon has raised her lamp above," sung by Danny Mann and Hardress Cregan, is also a most exquisitely delicate melody, and full of tenderness. Indeed, the characteristic song, "It is a charming girl I love," with its quaint and picturesque-coloured recitative, in the minor key, sung by Miles na Coppaleen; and the brilliant duet,



MR. DION BOUCICAULT.

"Trust me, the glove will be a token," by Mrs. Cregan and Myles; the lovely chorus of boatmen, sung behind the scenes in the water cave; and the entire of the finales to the first and third acts are full of beauties.

We have not space to enter upon the whole of the gems of the opera. The success commenced with the overture, which was encored vociferously, and was never one moment in doubt at any period of the performance.

The artists in their various capacities left scarce a fault to find. Miss Louisa Pyne sang enchantingly, and never was her lovely voice and pure style shown to greater perfection than in the Colleen Bawn. Miss Jessie M'Clean, the new contralto (who is a mezzo-soprano) had an unthankful part in Ann Chute, but sang well and left no doubt about the quality of her organ. Miss Susan Pyne sustained her part, vocally and histrionically, most creditably. Of the gentlemen we must specialise Mr. Santley, who never sang more finely. Mr. Harrison was excellent as Myles na Coppaleen. Mr. Haigh sang well—better than usual, and gave his friends stronger hopes than ever of his one day becoming a real artist.

The scenery was excellent, the dresses were good, and the *mise-en-scene* all that could be desired.

Simultaneous with the opera was produced a new piece at the Adelphi, by Mr. Boucicault, called the "Dublin Boy;" it is, however, an adaptation of the little French piece, entitled the "Gamin de Paris." The principal character is Andy, the Dublin boy, who combines the humour, pathos, and high sense of honour which have been assumed as peculiarly Irish characteristics. Andy is full of mischief, but also of feeling, and throws by his toys and abandons his tricks, when his own character is assailed, and when a young officer, disguised as an artist, seduces his sister.

Mrs. D. Boucicault plays the paradoxical character of this wayward Dublin boy, with a hearty appreciation both of its humour and sentiment, relieving the tragic passages with sudden gleams of mirth and drollery, and softening the comic over with tender traits and touches of feeling.



ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

The other chief character in the piece is that of a General officer, who, though of the broad farce species, is well conceived and capably acted by Mr. Emery. Choleric, peremptory, and tortured with the gout, he is still the soul of honour, and outraged that his son should pledge his word and seduce, under a promise of marriage, an ignorant girl, he disinherits him, and tears off his epaulets. To heighten the excitement it is discovered that the injured girl is the daughter of the soldier who saved the General's life by throwing himself before him and receiving the shots intended for the General. This is all theatrical enough, but so well is it managed both by author and actor, that it creates an immense fervour, and the piece is consequently triumphantly successful. Mr. Emery's performance is a wonderful instance of keeping the burlesque within the bounds of pathetic emotion.

Mr. Billington, Mrs. Billington, and Miss Laidlaw very efficiently performed the less important parts. The acclamation at the close, and the calls, sufficiently testified the perfect success of this little drama.

Of Mrs. Boucicault's performance of the character, a contemporary thus speaks:—"On our own stage Mrs. Keeley is perhaps the only comedienne who could do it justice; and it certainly is no reproach to such a thoroughly delicate, refined, and graceful performer, as Mrs. Boucicault, to say that she is unequal to the task. In appearance, in dress, in walk, she is a boy to the life. But when she begins to act and to speak, the secret of her sex is disclosed in an instant. There is no sauciness in her tones, no rough nimbleness in her movements, no love of fun apparent in her manner. She moves about the stage as lightly and as gracefully as a fawn. She speaks softly and sweetly; and it is as difficult to imagine her the troublesome, mischievous, impulsive, no'er-do-well she claims to be, as to picture a fairy queen supping on beef-steaks. Even her pathos, touching as it is, is essentially feminine in its nature, and fails of its full effect from the incongruous spirit by which it seems to be animated. Mrs. Boucicault's impersonation is, nevertheless, pleasing."



MRS. DION BOUCICAULT.

And bright eyes grow brighter,
As guessing the writer,
A dozen names rush to the giddy young brain.
But the heart, wary sleeper,
Hath one name writ deeper,
Which whispers of passion again and again.

To each household they hurried,
In letters half buried,
From attic to kitchen, from master to maid.
Some laughed and some whimpered,
Some fumed and some simpered,
And some in their fair bosoms carefully laid.

"What a singular people," the Zealander mused,
"So grave in their mirth, in their wisdom misused.
"What business, what folly alternately away,
"Tis really surprising,
"Yet there's no disguising,
"That mad they all grow on Saint Valentine's Day."

ODE TO ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

The New Zealander lately arrived
In this land—
Took his stand
In St. Martin's-le-Grand,
Where the bees of the Post-office hired.

All was bustle, confusion, and hurry,
And crowding, and bawling, and worry,
And pushing and driving amain,
Where quiet and order should reign.
What is this, our New Zealander thought,
Such confusion and hurry hath wrought?

For here men are rushing with sacks
On their backs,
Of letters by thousands quite crammed;
While the street in the front is full jammed

With carts by the score,
Hearing millions or more,
From each office collected around,
And the crowd in the street
Each arrival fresh greet,
With a cheer of a joyful sound

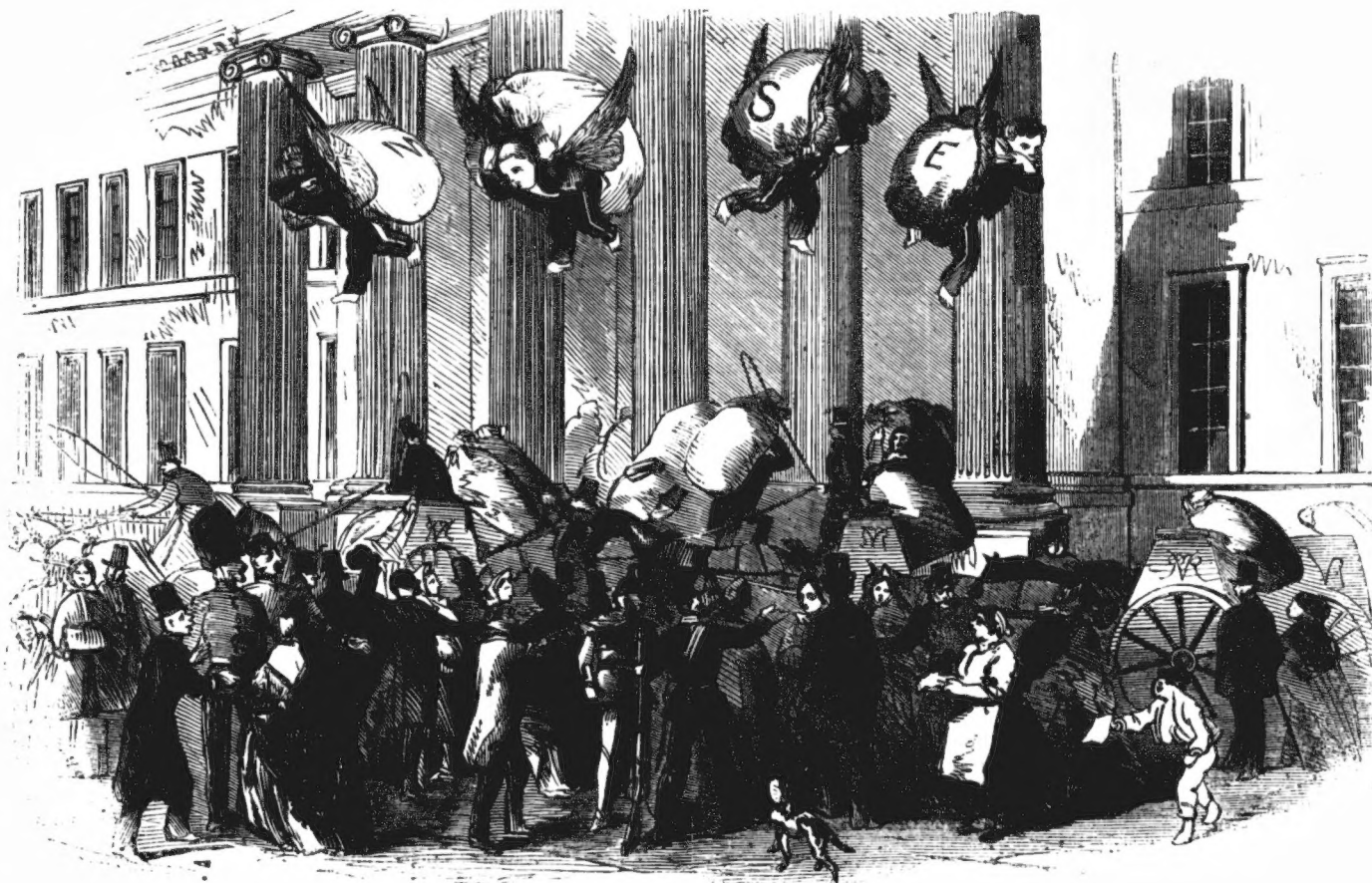
What is this? then he said,
As he lifted his head,
Has the nation run wild for a day?
What could tempt them to such
Such a host without end
Of letters, the postmen to slay?

But on raising his eyes
Aloft to the skies
A vision arose on his sight—
Four Cupids, full dressed
In the carriers' best,
From the portico speeded their flight;

And each on his back
Bore a monstrous sack
Of love missives, dove-coloured bound,
North, West, South, and East,
They flew off with their feast
Of affections to scatter around.

And dreamingly thinking,
Like one who'd been drinking
In Fancy's deep fount, he pursued
Each roguish young Boy-God,
And mischievous Joy-God,
Away to the homes of the lovely and good.

Then the young maiden rushes,
All tremours and blushes,
Expectant to answer the call at the door;
And then without measure
Of rapture or pleasure,
She kisses the urchin the missive who bore.



ST. VALENTINE'S DAY.

simultaneously of two alarming fires. The first was discovered a few minutes after eight o'clock, at a private house situated at the bottom of Back-hill, two doors from Somerset-street, owned by a French polisher; but before the flames had gained any considerable hold upon the premises the powerful steam engine of Messrs. Reid and Co., the brewers, was at the spot, and succeeded in materially subduing the outbreak before any of the fire-brigade engines had arrived. Singularly enough, however, in the midst of the operations an outcry was raised of "another fire" in Hatton-garden, to which the brigade engines immediately drove off, leaving the fire at Back-hill in the hands of Reid's engine and its men, who succeeded in extinguishing it by about nine o'clock. The fire in Hatton-garden broke out upon the premises of No. 21, in the joint occupation of Messrs. Baume and Lezard, Geneva watch manufacturers, and Messrs. Berger, watch glass manufacturers, but before the arrival of the engines so powerful was the heat gained by the flames that it was evident the premises were doomed to destruction, and within half an hour of the outbreak, shortly before nine o'clock, the house was completely gutted, and the fire would have inevitably spread to the adjoining house, owned by Messrs. Rowland, Messrs. Macassar oil firm, and Messrs. Parnini, carvers and gilders, and Messrs. Casella, wholesale opticians, on either side, but for the timely play of the steam fire and Farringdon-street engines. It is understood that Messrs. Baume rescued some of their valuable stock of watches from the flames, but whether they were insured is not yet known. Both fires were completely out by ten o'clock.

DIVORCE CASE IN HIGH LIFE.—A suit for divorce of extraordinary interest even in the remarkable records of the divorce Court, is likely, we understand, to occupy the attention of Sir C. Cresswell towards the latter end of the present month, in which both the petitioner and the respondent are members of the aristocratic classes, while the co-respondent is to be connected with a leading manufacturing firm at Sheffield. The husband, the Marquis of W—, the representative of an ancient Irish peerage, entered into the marriage state, it is stated, at the venerable age of threescore and two, selecting as his partner for life an attractive young lady, only 22 years of age. Early in last year, while on a visit to the Continent, the Marchioness became acquainted at Paris with Mr. C—, the agent and representative of a Sheffield firm in that city. The intimacy thus formed soon became a very cordial description, and resulted in a correspondence which was continued after the return of the Marchioness to England. In May, 1861, the Marchioness, evidently in accordance with a previous arrangement with Mr. C—, went down to Matlock, in Derbyshire, on pretence of needing change of air. Not many days after the arrival of the Marchioness at Matlock, her maid was engaged for herself, her maid, and a young gentleman, at a hotel not far from the Botanical Gardens, Sheffield, ostensibly for a newly married pair on a bridal tour. Their stay was prolonged to a month, during which they passed the time very pleasantly in making excursions in the neighbourhood of Sheffield, never failing, however, to pay a weekly visit to Matlock; and on leaving the hotel expressed their satisfaction at the accommodation that had been afforded them. The denouement of this agreeable trip to Sheffield has only recently transpired. On Friday last the proprietor of the hotel in question was surprised by the visit of a gentleman, who announced that he was a member of a legal firm in London, and that his business was to serve a subpoena upon the innkeeper, his wife, and his maid, as witnesses in the pending divorce case of W— v. W— and C—, which is fixed to come on about the 15th inst. He had travelled from London specially to serve the subpoenas personally. It is now believed that the object of going weekly to Matlock was for the purpose of receiving or replying to any letters from the marquis, or from any correspondent, as no communications were ever transmitted by post during their stay in Sheffield. There is no doubt, moreover, that the visit to Matlock was made available by the Marchioness for a meeting by arrangement with Mr. C— at Sheffield and passing as his wife. The discovery of the clandestine correspondence was made, it is stated, in the most singular manner. Mr. C— corresponded with the Marchioness through the medium of Eliza James, the lady's maid, and by some mischance or other, the marquis happened to open a letter addressed to the maid, and found an inclosure for the Marchioness. Curiosity prompted him to read it, and he found it was from the co-respondent, C—. He then interrogated the maid, who confessed to the irregularities of her mistress. The consequence was an immediate separation and the establishment of the present suit. The damages are valued at £5,000, and Serjeant Sheo is leading counsel for the petitioner.

SUICIDE OF A LICENSED VICTUALLER.—On Tuesday morning Mr. Payne, the coroner for the city of London, received information of the death of Mr. William Batson, aged 42 years, the landlord of the Cooper's Arms, Old Fish-street-hill. The deceased has lately been in a very desponding state of mind. One of the inmates, on going into the bar parlour, found him in a pool of blood, which proceeded from a gash in the throat, and a razor was lying by his side. He was conveyed to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, but he expired before reaching the hospital.

FATAL MINE ACCIDENT NEAR TAVISTOCK.—On Monday morning, about 9 o'clock, an accident, attended with fatal consequences, occurred at the Wheal Friendship Mine, near this place. It appears that four miners, John Crocker, his two sons, and another man, were working in the 170 fathom level, when a portion of the ground gave way, burying the poor fellows beneath a ponderous mass of earth and rock. The elder Crocker, when extricated, was found to be dead. The remaining three are so much injured as to render their recovery hopeless. A report was current in Tavistock last evening that Crocker's two sons have also been released from their sufferings by death. The accident has filled the inhabitants in the neighbourhood of the mine with sorrow.—*Western Morning News.*

FATAL CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.—A melancholy accident occurred at a place called Stubbing-gate, near Ilwroth, on Sunday morning. Mr. J. O. Greenwood, Mrs. Greenwood, and three of their children, started from their residence at Moorhouse in the carriage for the morning service at the Baptist Chapel, West-lane, Ilwroth. When they had proceeded a short distance, and reached a place called Marsh, the horse, a very spirited animal, took fright, and became unmanageable. It ran with great speed down the hill, and on

reaching the bottom, came violently against the wall. The whole party were violently thrown from the carriage, and the youngest of the children, a fine boy, was killed on the spot. Mr. Greenwood was much bruised, and Mrs. Greenwood so seriously injured that little hope was entertained of her recovery. The other two children escaped with little injury. The carriage was broken to pieces, and the horse was also much bruised.

A FAMILY SUFFOCATED AT CARDIFF.—A most distressing occurrence has just taken place at Cardiff. Last Sunday night a man named Patrick Connel, residing in Ellen-street, Newton, Cardiff, with his wife and two children, went to bed, but before doing so, the night being very cold, and there being no fire-place in the sleeping apartment, they kindled a quantity of coal in a tin pitcher. The result was that all four were found dead on Monday morning, to all appearance having been suffocated by inhaling carbonic acid gas. The man was 40 years old and his wife 25 years; the children, one a daughter, 2½ years old, the other an infant boy only 10 days old. An inquest was held on Monday evening before R. L. Reece, Esq., the county coroner, when the jury returned a verdict of "Died by suffocation by the inhaling of carbonic acid gas."

ALARMING FIRE AT CAMDEN TOWN.—On Tuesday night, shortly after ten, an alarming fire broke out on the premises of Mr. Pettifer, linen draper, High-street, Camden-town, a short distance beyond the Red Cap. The Kentish-town parish engine was first upon the spot, but the inflammable nature of the goods, and the height to which the flames had then reached, rendered the efforts of this small engine almost futile. Soon, however, a strong detachment of the Oxford Blues, from the Albany-street Barracks, with their more powerful engine arrived, under the command of Captain Hill, Lieut. Fuller, Riding-master Boswell, Quartermaster-sergeant Adnutt. The stalwart fellows set to work with a will, and by the time of the arrival of other engines they had so far got the mastery of the fire as only to require a little further assistance. This was rendered, and, after about an hour's exertion the fire was put out, but not till the place was completely gutted. Too much credit cannot be given to the Blues for their manly exertions; for, had it not been for their strenuous efforts the adjoining premises must have been destroyed.

RAILWAY AND OTHER PRIVATE BILLS IN PARLIAMENT.—The examiners have decided that the standing orders have been complied with:—Ramegate, Sandwich, Deal, and Dover Railway; Great Western, Hereford, Ross, and Gloucester, and Ely Valley Railways; Mid Wales Railway (Devonians, &c.); Mersey, Weaver, and Irwell, &c., Protection; South Yorkshire Railway and River Don Company (Transfer, &c.); Daventry Railway. In the case of the Dagenham (Thames) Dock Company, the standing orders had not been complied with; and the petition for the Southampton and Isle of Wight Railway and Pier was withdrawn.

HEALTH OF LONDON.

The return of births and deaths issued by the Registrar-General states that the mortality of London in the week that ended last Saturday exhibited a decrease on that of some previous weeks, in two of which since the beginning of this year the deaths rose above 1,500. Last week the number was 1,361. But if the average rate of mortality in the corresponding weeks of ten years 1852-61 had prevailed, the deaths would have been 1,393; and hence it appears that the present return, though it is below, differs but slightly from the estimated amount.

Typhus, to which 63 deaths were referred, does not appear to have made further progress since the week that ended January 25. It was fatal in 3 cases in the sub-district of St. Paul, Deptford, and in 3 in Greenwich East; and it was returned in 4 cases in the Poplar district. Scarletina prevailed more than any other of the epidemic diseases; it carried off 82 children, and 22 adults. There were 1 death from scarletina in the north-west sub-district of Chelsea, 3 in the Hackney sub-district, and 3 in St. Paul, Deptford, but Norwood seems to be at the present time the chief seat of the complaint.

There were 178 deaths last week from bronchitis, whilst the corrected average is 185. It is remarkable that there were only 19 from pneumonia, the average being 101.

Five children, all girls, died of scarletina in Norwood, one at 9, Change-ally, two in Oak-terrace, one in Eden-road, and one at 7, Albert-terrace. Besides these, a woman died in St. George's-terrace, Hamilton-road, Norwood, of low fever. The six deaths constitute the whole mortality for the week in the sub-district.

A stable-boy, aged 19 years, died in Gay's Hospital from glanders.

Nine nonagenarians died in the week, the oldest of whom was a woman, aged 95 years. Two men were severally 91 years.

Last week the births of 1,095 boys and 1,102 girls, in all 2,197 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1852-61 the average number (corrected) was 2,001.

GARDENING.

FLOWER GARDENS AND SHRUBBERIES.—See to having plenty of soil prepared for striking cuttings in, and have draining materials for pots prepared and sorted out in sizes. As there will be comparatively little to do at present, any spare time will be well spent in going over the stock of plants in pits for next season's use, removing every decaying leaf, and, where the surface soil has got green, removing this and top dressing with sandy loam. There is nothing so unfavourable to these plants at this season as damp, therefore take every favourable opportunity of admitting fresh air.

HARDY FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN.—Where orchard trees are infested with insects, as soon as time can be spared for the purpose, the bark should be well scraped with a blunt tool to remove as many of the larvæ as possible, after which the parts should receive a coat of the following composition:—viz., hot lime and soot in equal quantities mixed with water from the cow-house until it attains the consistency of thick paint. This composition should be well rubbed into the crevices of the bark in order to make sure of its reaching every hiding-place of the enemy; and if a little cow manure was worked up in the composition, it would be useful in causing it to adhere better. It is a tedious task to properly cover large old trees with this, but its effect in clearing them of insects will repay the trouble, and an occasional coat to young trees will be useful in keeping them clean.

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT IN THE WATERLOO ROAD.

A most lamentable accident happened on Monday afternoon, in that great metropolitan thoroughfare known as the Waterloo-road, Lambeth, about midway between the railway end of the bridge and the South Western Railway Terminus. In order to make the account intelligible, it is necessary to state that at the extremity of the incline leading from Waterloo Bridge, in the direction of the railway, stands a row of houses, three floors high, built upon a similar number of structures raised in the Commercial-road, a narrow thoroughfare leading from the south side of the River Thames, and in close proximity with the Peabody Tavern. Owing to some disagreement between the landlord and the mortgagee, brokers' men had been placed in some of the houses for the purpose of getting possession of the property contained in their respective habitations in the Waterloo-road end of the bridge. Amongst the number of houses to be changed was one belonging to Mr. Southbery, a wardrobe dealer and restorer, No. 198, in the before-named thoroughfare, better known as Wellington-terrace.

From what can at present be learned it seems that the man put into possession of Mr. Southbery's premises absconded himself for a minute or two, in order to get some refreshment, when, as soon as he was seen leaving the house, several of the inmates barricaded the front doorway, and the same time persons lodging in the various floors commenced throwing their furniture and other effects out of the windows, from which cause several parties passing along were more or less injured. The man who had been in possession of the premises, upon seeing how matters were proceeding, called to the residents to allow him to re-enter, which they refused, saying that, as he had chosen to go out, they intended to keep him out. The man called a police-constable to keep back a crowd of persons who had mustered strongly on hearing the altercation, whilst he forced the front door in order to obtain an entrance into the building. This proceeding caused hundreds of persons to assemble, until, from the pressure, the stone-flagged thoroughfare and the iron area railings parted asunder. A scene of excitement ensued which it is hardly possible to describe. The apparently massive pavement suddenly parted, and men, women, and children fell into the chasm below—a depth of nearly 12 feet. The heavy iron and stone work also fell with a terrible crash, carrying with it nearly thirty human beings. The most painful excitement was created in the neighbourhood by this unlooked-for occurrence. Three or four persons passing got through the adjoining houses on either side, and several others made their way to the backs of the houses in Commercial-street, and in about half an hour managed to get the following sufferers out: Geo. Clowry, Edwin S. Robbins, Edwin Woods, Thos. Graves, Francis Wynne, Thos. Baker, Daniel Murphy, John Heat, Francis Cunningham, a boy of 11, James, Wheelhouse, Frederick Harman, Wm. Kenner, Wm. Venus, Robt. Barker, Sarah Harding, Mary Goldsmith, Fanny Robinson, Rose Matlock, and Elizabeth Goldsmith. This, however, only the first list of persons extricated. Conveyances were procured, and the sufferers accompanied to St. Thomas's Hospital, where everything was done for them that surgical skill could devise, but late last night all remained in a very precarious state.

The above unfortunate persons had barely been drawn out, when a report was raised that two children, who had been playing in the front area of their premises in the back-street, were missing. Search was immediately made for them, and they were found under the debris, fearfully injured. Their names were George Bealers, aged 11 years, and Thomas Townsend, aged 12. They went at once removed to Gay's Hospital, and attended by Mr. Hilton, the House Surgeon, who discovered that they had both sustained fractured thighs. They still remain in the hospital.

Upon a careful inspection of the parts that fell and caused such lamentable injuries, it appears that the stonework at the end of the areas of the various houses in this great thoroughfare, daily and nightly passed over by thousands, was placed upon mere wooden bearings, and, by wet and old age, had become decayed, and unable any longer to bear the weight of the passing public, to say nothing of the dead weight of probably fifty individuals; for there must have been that number present when the catastrophe took place.

SPORTING.

MANCHESTER, TUESDAY NIGHT.

LIVERPOOL STEEPLECHASE.

- 10 to 1 agst Captain Christie's The Dane (t.)
- 13 to 1 — Viscount de Namur's Huntsman (t.)
- 13 to 1 — Mr. T. Naughton's Thomastown (t.)
- 16 to 1 — Lord Stormont's Jealousy (off.)
- 25 to 1 — Viscount de Namur's Tippler (t.)
- 33 to 1 — Mr. E. Rowan's Bucephalus (t.)

CHESTER CUP.

- 20 to 1 agst Mr. R. Hawkesley's Zodiac.

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.

- 3 to 1 agst Sir R. Bulkeley's Old Calabar (off.)
- 8 to 1 — Mr. S. Hawke's The Marquis (off.)
- 100 to 7 — Mr. W. Day's Alvediston (t.)

THE DERBY.

- 9 to 1 agst Mr. Merry's Buckstone (t.)
- 9 to 1 — Sir R. Bulkeley's Old Calabar (t.)

PEDESTRIANISM.

A complimentary benefit to Edward Mills was given to this celebrated little champion on Monday last, at Hackney Wick, which was attended by about 1,500 of his friends. There was a handicap race of 250 yards, followed by a one-mile handicap, and a five-mile handicap. In the latter two races all his competitors were easily beaten, and he had an excellent day's sport.

PUGILISM.

A trial championship prize fight came off on Tuesday last between Joe Goss and Ryall, but, after fighting one hour and thirty minutes in a tedious manner, the combatants agreed to draw stakes, as Goss has challenged Mace. Much disappointment was felt.

VIEW IN HAMBURG.

HAMBURG, the principal commercial city and seaport of Germany, was founded by Charlemagne, towards the close of the eighth century; but, as ages sped on, encountered a diversity of vicissitudes. For a long period it was subject to attacks from the Danes; but in 1768 it purchased a resignation of all claims upon it by Denmark, and a security against future attacks. During the last great French War, it was greatly injured by the occupation of the French, and Bonaparte's restrictions. At the peace, however, it was partially indemnified for its loss, and has since gradually retrieved its former flourishing condition. In May, 1842, a tremendous conflagration devastated the greater portion of the city; twenty-three streets and one hundred and twenty passages were burnt, and 19,995 of the population left houseless. Although the catastrophe occasioned ruin and great suffering to many, the rebuilding of the city according to a regular plan has greatly improved the city; for its streets were mostly dark, narrow, and dirty, the houses being mostly of brick, old-fashioned and ill-built, so that the outward appearance of the city offered little of interest to visitors. The principal ornament of Hamburg is the Alster. This beautiful river rises in Holstein, some miles above the city, and spreads out into a wide lake, which afterwards traverses through very broad ditches, flows round the former ramparts, which are now hid in the improved walks, and then intersects the streets of the



VIEW IN HAMBURG.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT BATTERSEA.

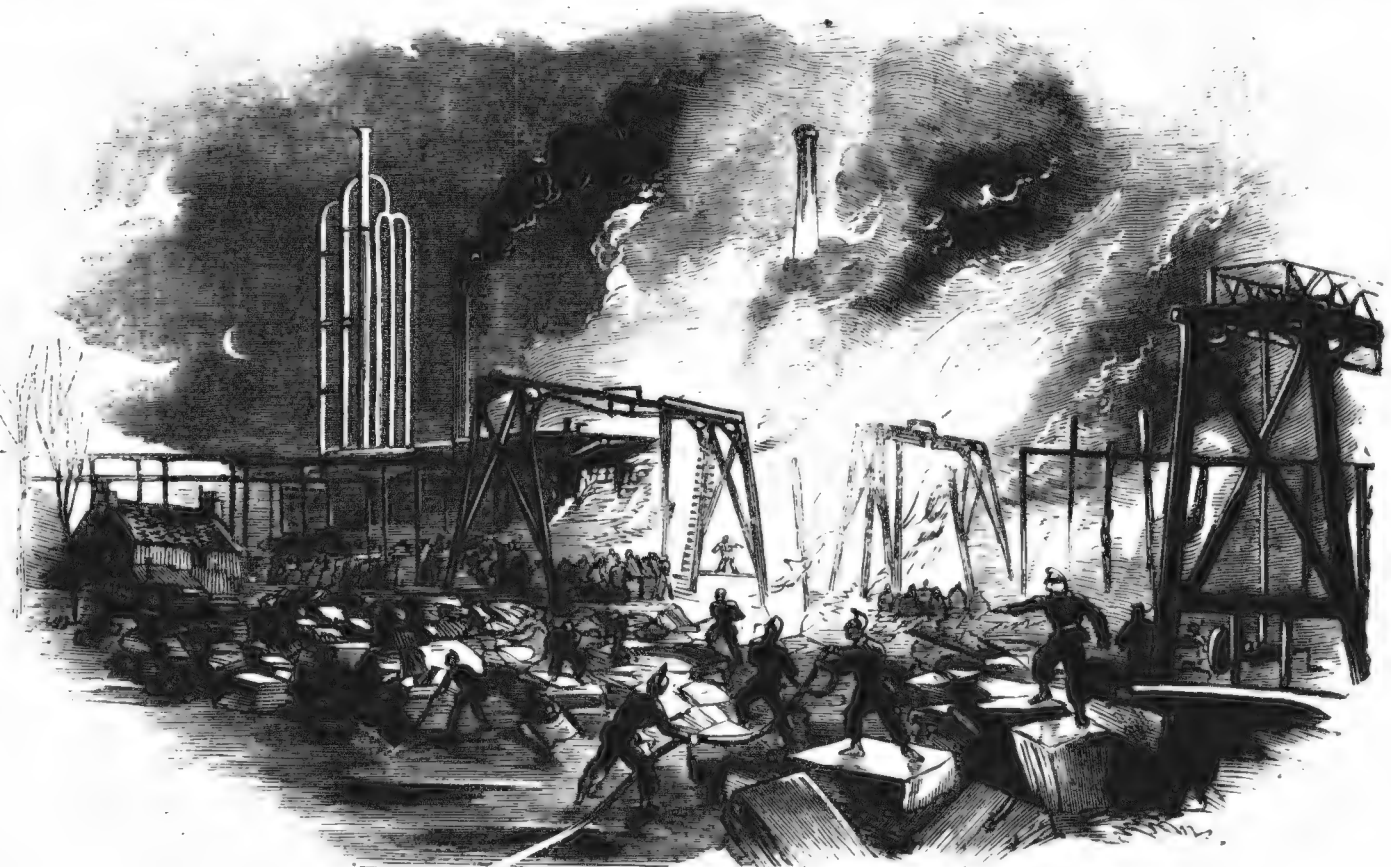
On Tuesday night, about nine o'clock, a fire suddenly broke out in the premises at Battersea, known as Messrs. Cochrane's, the contractors for building the new Westminster Bridge. The property in question covered several hundred yards of ground—the "gauntry," which faced the public road, was from 400 to 500 feet long. This consisted of immense piles of timber, probably sixty or seventy feet high, at the top of which were travellers, each weighing three or four tons. Stretching about midway of this structure, extended almost to the water side, was a range of workshops used as fitters', planing, and erecting shops, in which a large quantity of machinery and partially finished work was deposited, roughly estimated at several thousand pounds sterling. The fire was at first discovered by Mr. J. Bryan, the landlord of the White Swan Tavern, Nine Elms. He raised an immediate alarm, and sent off for the turncocks and engines. In a very brief period a large number of engines were on the spot, but owing to the immense quantity of ironwork and the iron tramways that ran across the

grounds some of them were unable to get near enough to work. About half past ten o'clock the fire presented a grand and imposing spectacle, the Houses of Parliament and both banks of the river being brilliantly illuminated. While the firemen were busily employed, it was discovered that the front "gauntry" had become ignited, when Captain Shaw and Mr. Anderson directed all the available force at command to pour the water upon the travelling crane, in order, if possible, to save the lower bearings and the valuable pieces of machinery. Suddenly one of the ponderous machines was seen to topple a little, and in a minute or two afterwards the platform fell, carrying with it a three-ton weight crane. At first it was feared that some of the firemen had been killed, but upon making inquiries it was ascertained that such was fortunately not the case. By dint of great perseverance the firemen succeeded in getting the fire almost extinguished before midnight, but the damage done is very serious; the whole of the fitters', the planing, the erecting, and other houses were entirely destroyed.

The accompanying engraving is taken from the river's

bank, which is covered with the whole of the worked stone forming the old Westminster-bridge. In the back ground is seen the syphon of the South London Waterworks rising to an immense altitude, and, as illuminated by the fire, formed a novel and impressive object.

MELANCHOLY OCCURRENCE.—Mr. Robt. Nicholls, the occupier of Brownsell Farm, situate in the parish of Holbeton, was accidentally drowned early on Saturday morning under very painful circumstances. On Friday, the deceased, in company with other farmers of the parish, and two keepers in the service of Mr. Horatio Bebb, of Fleet, went out for a day's rabbiting, and in the evening they adjourned to Archerton Farm, where they remained until about midnight. The deceased would have occasion, in going home to his own residence, to pass over a rivulet, which empties itself into the Yealm, and across which a bridge had been thrown. The stream is about 15 feet wide, and the bridge was at an elevation of several feet from the water. The body of the deceased was recovered at 7 o'clock, when life was quite extinct.—*Western Daily News.*



DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT BATTERSEA.

BLOWING BUBBLES.

Who in his time has not blown his bubble, either in reality or in fancy? Too much of the world is made up of bubble-blowing. When a tiny boy, with soap-bowl and pipe, what hours of amusement has been afforded—what scope of imagination for the mind as the light and fragile bubble mounts high and higher into the air, out into the sheen—round and round; away with a dash; then slow and steady; now poised like a moon—now floating like a feather—and now, alas! the air is too heavy for its plaything existence, and the bubble bursts; Bright, airy, many-coloured, evanescent—how like the day-dreams of life does it appear! The hopes of fiery youth, the plans and anticipations of manhood, the misty reminiscences of age—are they not all typified in the pageant bubble, floating so gaily in the sunshine, only to burst at last? The fairy-formed pictures of the mind, as it dwells in the picture and shapes out its bright creations—the air-built castles of irrepressible fancy—the hopes and promises of, alas! too many a love-holiday—the joys and pleasures of life, so transient yet so absorbing,—what are they after all? Bubbles blown by a boy!

Up, up, higher, and higher, and higher, away into the sunshine, tinted with all the colours of the rainbow, how round and bright it seems, and yet how hollow and transparent! Watch the bubbles of the world as they float gaily on, and, in their mimic grandeur seem to mock at fear, and never think of breaking; they are the promises of kings! Follow for a little while the gaily-coloured things as they sail hither and thither in the warm light of the glorious summer's day, and never seem to tire the senses; they are the pleasures of the world! Round and round they go in endless gyrations of grace and beauty, reflecting the images of the world beneath, in magic colours, gorgeous and intense; and as we gaze upon their circling changes, each more wonderful and grand, we are lost in rapture, and fancy they will last for ever; they are the dreams of love!

Suspended in the ambient ether, we feast our eyes upon their heavenly forms and colours, and, carried away by the glittering pomp of their magnificence, we madly rush to seize the hollow bauble, impatient of the strife and thoughtless of the results; they are the objects of ambition and mistaken zeal. All the world are blowing



BLOWING BUBBLES.

bubbles, heedless of their breaking, and the most innocent to our thinking are those of soap and water blown from a farthing pipe.

The merchant who, leaving the paths of legitimate commerce, sinks his capital on ill-directed ventures, and speculates beyond his actual means, on waking some summer's day from his feverish dream of wealth, finds himself a bankrupt. His bubble has burst, and he wakes suddenly to the reality that all is void, leaving him aghast at the little fabric on which his house and his reputation had rested. The youth who throws his heart away on a pretty face, without inquiry into, or experience of, the certain good qualities which should accompany and adorn it, is a bubble-blower, whose miserable fate is the result of his own folly and want of forethought.

We are all bubble-blowers! All seek the fancied good of life, and never find it: ponder over the musty dusty tomes of other men's experience, and derive no profit from the search. Alas! in the great game of life we are all too apt to place reliance on objects as light and brittle even as a bubble. Well, if our sole hopes were not too much buoyed up by bubbles, there would not be much harm after all in blowing them.

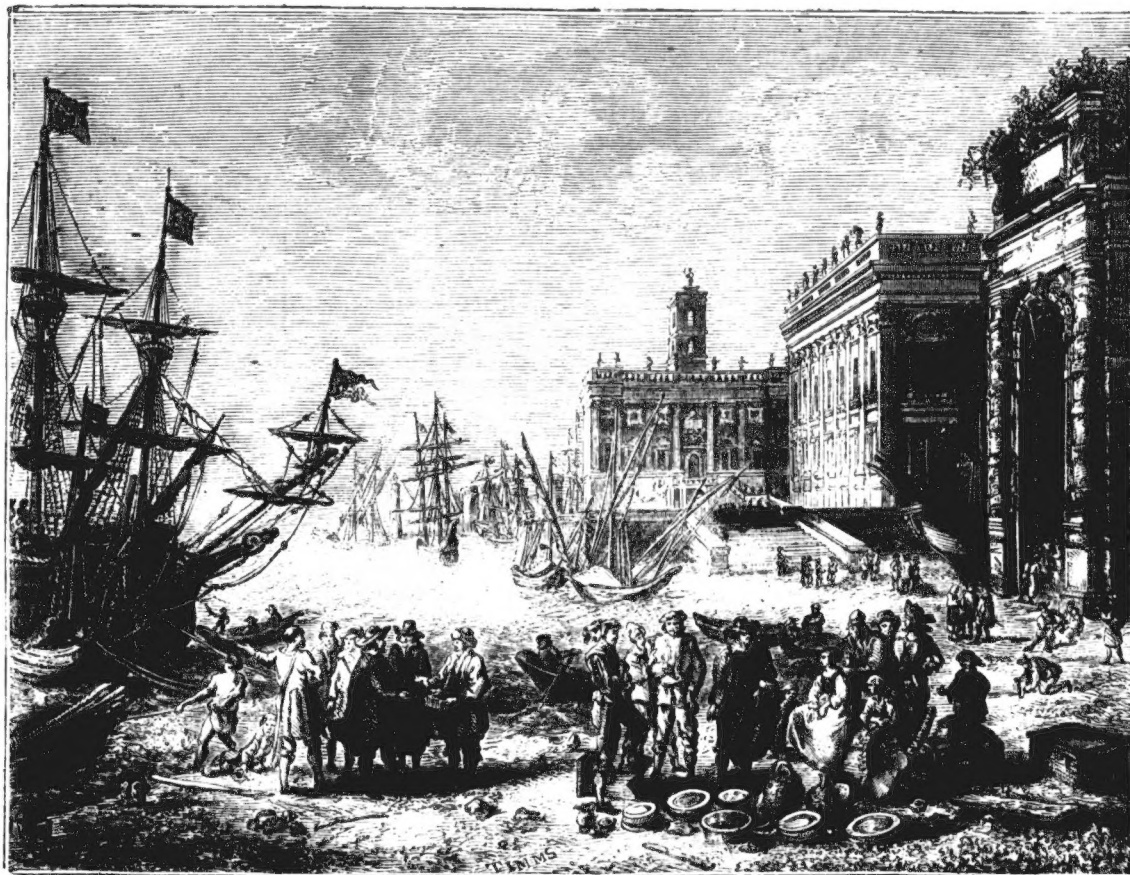
The accompanying engraving is from an original drawing of Mr. Hurst, and forms one of his series of "Wonderful Boys," which for so many successive years were exhibited in the Water-colour Exhibition.

A Frenchman and a German had one sausage between them for supper. The question was, how should it be divided. "Let us cut it in two," said the Frenchman. "Rather," replied the German, "let each of us take an end between our teeth, and, at a given signal, pull our portion." "Agreed," exclaimed the other; the sausage was seized, and each fixed his teeth in the end that was nearest to him. "Are you ready?" growled Mynheer. "Oui!" replied Mynseer, through his clenched teeth. "Are you?" "Yaw!" ejaculated the German, giving his signal, and dropping both jaw and sausage in the necessary open ejaculation of the word. Thus the sausage fell wholly to the Frenchman's lot.

"Tell your mistress that I have torn the curtain," said a gentleman to the punning domestic of his lodging-house. "Very well, sir, mistress will put it down as rent."

EARLY MORNING ON THE ITALIAN COAST.

ITALY, the home of the early school of painters, has produced the greatest masters in the art. Among them Claude Lorraine, from one of whose celebrated paintings in the magnificent Louvre, in Paris, our illustration above is taken. In his day Italy was the land of poetry and romance. Her wealth was boundless. Her arts furnished the only masterpieces known to Europe. The wealth of the Italian merchant princes filled the treasuries of nations; and the term "rich as a Lombard" was far more significant than the now common term "rich as a Jew." But how has that great nation fallen! We look in vain for modern artists to supply the place of the old masters, also for that wealth and extensive commerce which were formerly her characteristics. Venice was then a powerful republic. Genoa displayed an independent flag, and brought rich argosies of silks and velvets, spices and odours, gold, and Damascus steel from the far East; and Rome, the former mistress of the world, had not ceased to stand at the head of Catholic Christendom. The artist, then,



EARLY MORNING ON THE ITALIAN COAST.

in order to win renown in his own day, and to achieve an immortality with posterity, had but to fix upon canvas the glowing scenes around, and to infuse into them the intelligence of spirit. This Claude wrought. "His studies," says one of his biographers, "were in the open fields, upon the plains, amid the mountains, upon the banks of rivers, and upon the sea coast, from dawn till sunset—ever taking lessons from Nature herself; and it was by this diligent study, and imitation of his great mistress, and by devoting all his energies, his genius, and his whole heart to the pursuit of excellence, that he climbed to the highest step of perfection, as a landscape painter, that had ever been attained."

INCORRIGIBLE.—A young lady was told by a married one that she had better precipitate herself from the fall of the Passaic than marry. "So I would," replied she, "if I thought I should find a husband at the bottom."

REASON FOR GIVING UP BUSINESS.—A wag, on hearing that a man had given up chimney-sweeping, expressed surprise, as he thought the business suited him.

Literature.

MORTALLY WOUNDED.*

BY CAPTAIN —.

THE facts narrated in the following pages occurred as an episode of war in the midst of the thrilling incidents of an Indian Campaign.

The narrative, simple as it is, may teach those who depreciate the character of soldiers (and there are many who are apt to think that they are but *fighting machines*), to regard them in a new light, and from a nobler point of view.

The harsh music of war had died away, the noise and smoke of battle had subsided, and the British standard was fluttering over the gorgeous palaces of Lucknow.

The thundering boom of heavy guns and the crashing blow of mortar-shells no longer reverberated amid the crumbling ruins of massive edifices. Rattling of light artillery, clanking of horsemen, pattering volleys of musketry, the wild cheer of battalions rushing on the foe, and the glad shout of victory—all were hushed.

The gunner was at rest; his portfire was extinguished, and in dreams he wandered amidst the ruins he had made; and the charger's saddle-girth was loosed, and the horse kept watch over his wearied rider. The strongholds of the enemy were now the resting-places of our men. But, alas! the heart-rending groans of the wounded were heard, and the last trembling whispers of a dying man fell on my ear.

I was sitting by the bed of one who had but a short time to live, and taking down, at his request, the few words that he could with great difficulty utter at irregular intervals.

His name was John Black, a sergeant in her Majesty's—Regiment of Foot—as splendid a man as I ever saw, whose death-scene presented to my mind a picture which I shall never forget. I had seen a good deal of death. I had often beheld hundreds of wounded lying on "the field." I had "got used," as the saying is, "to those sort of things." Yet the death-scene of Sergeant Black could never be looked on, or thought of, unconcernedly. A single day before, he was strong and well, perhaps the strongest and the finest man in his regiment; and that, reader, is saying a good deal when you have a British regiment to deal with (as every nation in the world will confess—French, Russians, Turks, Persians, Hindoos, Mahomedans, Afghans, Ghorkas, Chinamen, and Maories). John Black was not only, however, a fine-looking man, but with all his soldier-like bearing he was gentle and courteous, and a great favourite in his company. The officers of the regiment used to talk of him very often together, and always with evident pride, for there was no doubt about it: he was a splendid specimen of a man. Was! Sad tense, indeed! Even the morning before he was in his very prime—lusty, strong, and happy. That day the regiment were taken into action, and as they were storming one of the last of the enemy's positions, a bullet struck poor Black. And the strong man fell shot through the side—*mortally wounded*.

Heart-rending words, that convey the idea of an irrevocable doom, over which millions of the world's inhabitants have shed burning tears of grief! Thrilling verdict! that separates for ever comrades in arms. Mortally wounded! An end to earthly ambition, earthly glory, earthly fame, earthly existence, and yet the prelude to the greatest of human victories.

It was night as I sat by Black's cot in the hospital where all our wounded were lying. The place which had been selected for them by the surgeon of the regiment was a long room in one of the largest buildings of Lucknow. When first entered (which was only two hours before) it was quite empty or dusky. It had been cleared up a little, as many cots as could be had put into it, and some dim oil-burners placed at intervals in the long apartment. There lay some of our sick, and about thirty others who had been wounded a few hours before. Their wounds had been looked to and dressed, but many of the poor fellows were moaning in great pain.

I could see the doctor slowly passing from one bed to another, kindly attending to the sufferers, and anxiously ministering to their wants; cheering the men with hopeful words, and, as he left each patient, gently patting him on the shoulder, and looking at him with a smile of comfort, which several of the men afterwards told me beguiled the pain of their wounds and filled their hearts with love not only for the conscientious surgeon, but for all around them. Happy, glorious power of sympathy!

In the midst of that impressive scene, then, I was sitting by poor Black's bed, and talking with him for the last time. He knew quite well that he was dying, for the torturing pain of his wound told him it was mortal. He felt, too, as he expressed it, the blood "frothing" from his side, and his strength failing, gradually at first, but now more quickly.

His face was pale and haggard, and there was a cold sweat over his brow, which dampened the fair hair about his forehead and temples. His beautiful dark blue eyes had a sad and restless look about them; his lips were livid and dry, and he complained of incessant thirst. He had been tossing about a great deal, but now he was too weak to do so. Occasionally his body seemed to writhe, as it were, raising the clothes for a few seconds, and then letting them sink again on the bed.

Such was his condition, poor fellow; and yet—much to my delight, be it confessed—he was still brave, collected, and self-possessed. I had written down a good many of his words, which all displayed the affectionate and intellectual nature of the man. I then asked him if there was anything else he would like to express.

"Oh, yes, sir," he said with faltering voice; "but I'm giving you a great deal of trouble, sir."

"It's no trouble, Black," I replied; "it will be a great pleasure to me if I can attend to your wants in any way."

"Yes, sir," was his reply, "you've always been a kind captain and friend to me."

The poor fellow's unselfishness and gratitude were very affecting. After a pause, he said in a feeble tone,—

"Could I see Johnson, sir? I'd like to see him once more. There's not much more time for me, sir; there's very little more time."

He stopped, and groaning with pain (attacks of which recurred suddenly), he again repeated his friend's name.

Robert Johnson was a corporal in the same company with

Black, and he, too, had been wounded that day in the arm, severely, but not dangerously. It was only a short time before that he had left Black's bedside, to go and lie down for a little, as he himself was faint and weak. I walked along the room, and told Johnson that Black would like to see him again.

"Ah! sir, is he worse?" said the corporal, in a most touching manner, as he rose to follow me.

"He is very much, Johnson," said I; "You had better come at once," and I returned, softly. As I went I could see some of the poor men in the other beds with difficulty raising themselves, and trying to learn how it was going with their favourite sergeant; and I overheard one man, as I passed his bed, trying to make me hear something he was whispering. I stepped towards him, and he said—

"I beg your pardon, captain; but will you kindly remember me to Black, before he goes? I'd take it very kindly your doing so, sir."

And I could see a tear start to his eye as he spoke; and I turned and left that bedside overwhelmed with emotion.

"Ah!" I thought to myself, "there are men, indeed, around me, men that can suffer quietly, and bear their own griefs uncomplainingly, and yet feel heartily for another."

I was soon back again with poor Black, and in a minute or two Johnson came up, softly, his right arm all bandaged, and supported in a sling.

The expression on those men's faces, as they looked at each other, I shall never forget. The glazed eye of the dying man seemed for an instant to brighten, as Johnson approached softly as a woman, and putting his left hand upon his friend's shoulder, tremblingly exclaimed—

"Black! d'ye know me? Speak to me, Black. What is it?"

And there was a pause; and Black said—

"Yes, I know you well, Johnson; I've known you long. You'll not know me much longer. I'm going fast, Johnson. I'm happy; I'm very happy. I thank God for this."

By this time some of the other men had gone and told the doctor that they were afraid he was wanted. He came at once—softly, reverently, sympathizingly. He had been very attentive to Black, and had sat by his side for an hour after he was wounded, keeping up his strength with stimulants, and lessening his pain by administering opiates. Now he came to him for the last time; knowing there was nothing more to be gained by medicine or human skill, he came to add one more death-scene to the many he had witnessed; but, as he afterwards told me, he had seen none more impressive than this.

We were standing round the bed, intently looking at the sad picture before us, when I recollected the touching request of the private who had called me to him. I softly laid my hand on Black's forehead, so as to attract his attention, and said—

"Black! Private Malony has been asking for you. He wishes to be remembered to you."

"Ay, ay!" said Black with difficulty, "it's like the man. He's a good man, Captain. Thank him, sir, and tell him and all the men from me that I prayed for them with my last breath. You'll not forget this, sir, will you?"

"No, Black," I replied. "You may depend upon it the regiment shall know that you died happily, like a good man, and that you had time enough and heart enough to think of others in a Christian spirit, even at the last."

"Oh, yes, sir!" he said. "Oh, yes! But tell them, oh, tell them that it was only religion that made me happy."

He had scarcely uttered these words, when a change seemed to pass over his features, and each of us by the bedside instinctively stooped forward, in great anxiety to discover what it was. It almost seemed to take us by surprise; and yet, in point of fact, we had for some time been waiting for and expecting the change.

The doctor put his hand upon his patient's pulse, fixedly looking at him for a moment; felt his feet, and put his hand over his heart; then, looking towards me, he said in a tone of unfeigned sorrow, "Poor fellow, the scene is closing!"

I felt a dreadful numbness and tingling pass over my body, and an indescribable feeling of awe overshadowed my thoughts. My breath was suspended until relieved by a deep sigh, and my eyes fell upon Corporal Johnson. Such a picture of manly grief I never beheld.

A few minutes passed, and strange to me it seemed that poor Black partially recovered from the fearful faintness which had come on so suddenly. He only rallied enough to express a few more words. I wet his lips with water, and gently passed my handkerchief across his forehead. His eyes opened slightly, and, with the utmost exertion, and in broken syllables, he said—

"My Bible—my Bi—ble—is below my pillow. Oh, give it to me—to me—to me—to me—I listened anxiously, as I was afraid he might be unable to conclude his wish—to my mother!" he sighed. "God bless her—God bless—"

He drew a deep, deep breath, then lay motionless. Again a slight breathing occurred. I heard a drowsy rattling sound, observed a sort of quiver, and the body before me was lifeless. We stood motionless around until the doctor stooped down, placed his ear over the heart, and gave sign that it was all over.

With a heavy heart I turned and went away. Some time after (how long I could scarcely say) I woke as from a reverie, and found myself sitting on a form at the farther end of the room. I then remembered his wish about the Bible, and went back as noiselessly as I could. On approaching the bed, I found Corporal Johnson still there. He slightly turned away his head, but I could see that he was overcome with grief, and in his hand I observed a lock of hair, his last memento of poor Black!

What sincerity of love; what nobleness of feeling, what an earnestness of grief was that wounded man capable of! I gently removed the sheet which covered the face of the corpse. A soft smile (as is usual I believe in cases of death from gunshot wound) seemed to play over his calm features, and whether it was that my imagination pictured it or not, I cannot tell, but a look of heavenly happiness seemed pencilled there. I passed my hand below the pillow, and removed the Bible, whose words had afforded comfort in life and in death to that brave soul. Many of the pages were turned down, as I afterwards found, at the most beautiful passages of inspired writing. As I was in the act of turning to the first page, a piece of paper flew out from between the leaves and fluttered to the ground. I carefully recovered it, took a last look of the face I knew so well, and left Johnson

still by the bed. I then left the hospital to walk to my tent, which was not far distant. The night was calm and lovely, the stars were twinkling in the heavens, and as my mind was dwelling on the grand death-scene (grand, because triumphant over fear and death), I could hear the videttes calling aloud—"All's well!" On reaching my tent, I anxiously looked to the loose page which Black had thought worthy to be kept in his Bible. It was an extract which he had cut out of Shakespeare, and which had no doubt been a guiding rule and incentive to him in his career. It was that glorious passage from Henry the Fifth, which every soldier should know by heart and act up to:—

Every subject's duty is the King's; but
Every subject's soul is his own. Therefore
Should every soldier in the wars do as
Every sick man in his bed, work every
Mote out of his conscience; and dying
So, death is to him advantage; or not dying,
The time was blessedly lost, wherein such
Preparation was gained; and in him that
Escapes, it were not sin to think, that
Making God so free an offer, He let him
Outlive that day to see his greatness, and
To teach others how they should prepare.

Now I understood the secret of Sergeant Black's cool conduct, good feeling, and good character; the secret of his love to his Queen, his country, and his comrades; his sense of danger, and his happiness in death. The secret lay in his just and sincere appreciation of what a soldier's duty is.

On the following evening, at sunset, the whole regiment followed the body to the grave, and the funeral ceremony was conducted with great solemnity. I remained behind and stood by the covered grave, and thought to myself, "Would that every soldier could die as this man did!" I used often afterwards to revisit the spot. A cypress was planted at each end of the grave, and a marble slab was placed there, upon which the following words were inscribed:—

SACRED
TO THE MEMORY

OF
SERGEANT JOHN BLACK

(OF H.M.'S — REGIMENT),

WHO FELL IN ACTION, BEFORE LUCKNOW,

MARCH 23, 1859.

DEEPLY REGRETTED BY ALL THE OFFICERS AND MEN

OF HIS REGIMENT.

AGED 33.

"There is none other that fighteth for us, but only Thou, O God."

THE COMING OF THE SPRING.

The coming of the Spring—

Oh, the coming of the Spring!

Now the Winter wears away,

And we thirst, and yearn, and pray,

As a sick man prays for day,

For the coming of the Spring.

How we dream 'twill surely bring

Some new delightsome thing;

Some wondrous bliss that nears

Comet-like, from unknown spheres,

Crowning this year of all years

With the promise of the Spring.

But it comes not, or does wear

A strange horror in its hair;

Or goes on its meteor way

Till it fades in ether gray,

And its glories all decay,

Like the glories of the Spring.

Then our Maybuds drop o'erhead,

And our primroses lie dead;

And our violets on the moor

Blown unplucked, in nooks obscure,

And the dull heart shuts its door

On the beauty of the Spring.

Oh, vain and selfish grief!

Oh, sullen unbelief!

When each bird on each hedge-side,

Where snow lay all winter-tide,

Sings aloud, "God will provide,

He has sent us back the Spring!"

When each flower the children hold

Smiles—"This life-gem I could,

See how easily I can keep!

How I did not—only sleep;

But, through all the Winter deep,

Wait the coming of the Spring."

OUR WEATHER OFFICE.—Admiral Fitzroy, in his instructions to meteorological observers, is careful not to cut off any source of information, as he especially notes that the observations of nature are to be watched. Thus, when sea-birds fly out early and far to seaward, fair weather may be anticipated; on the contrary, when they hang about the land or fly inward, stormy weather is indicated. When animals, instead of spreading over their usual range, seek sheltered places, storms may be expected. Dew is an indication of fine weather, so is fog, but clearness of the atmosphere near the horizon is a sign of wet. When a mountaineer sees the hills cutting sharp against the sky, he wraps his plaid around him. A good hearing day is also an indication of coming wet. The public will feel all the more confidence in the word of the Meteorological Department for not disdaining these phenomena noted by the weather-wise, as they rest upon exactly the same foundation as what may be termed the more scientific signs—namely, experience. Now that meteorology is elevated into an applied science, we feel confident that immense progress will be made. It is a great thing to know that there is a central department instituted purposely to collect all information bearing upon the subject, and that it has a chief like Admiral Fitzroy, whose heart is in his business, and who seems never better pleased than when he is collecting from any source, however insignificant, a fact that is noteworthy—unless it be when he is diffusing his knowledge so attained, either to individuals or the public at large.

* Extracted from the April (1861) number of "Good Words," published by Starbuck and Co., Edinburgh.

NOTICE TO INVENTORS.

was subsequently given to the General, when one of the noble assemblage was called upon for a toast, and being desirous of conveying the idea, by the sentiment he should give, that the General, though he was a white-man was nevertheless full of sympathy for the negroes, he rose and gave the following: "Mass. General F—, though he have a white skin, he got a black heart."

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